

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered for Transmission Abroad.]

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THIRD EDITION.

THE "PEOPLE" OFFICE.

Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)
THE CANONISATION.

ROME, Dec. 8, 3 p.m.—The ceremony of canonisation has just been brought to a conclusion, having lasted some five hours. So early as six o'clock this morning groups of people collected in the Piazza di San Pietro, anxious to witness at least a portion of the day's ceremony; while others took up places in the Basilica itself, in the hope of obtaining a view of the proceedings through the windows of the upper atrium, which look upon the grand nave. The weather to the present hour has been splendid, and there has not been the slightest appearance of disturbance.

The canonisation passed off without any noteworthy incident, the arrangements made beforehand being strictly followed out.

TUNIS.

TUNIS, Dec. 7.—It is reported that M. Roustan will after all return to Tunis. Mustapha Ben Ismail is expected here this week.

Heavy rains have fallen incessantly during the last three days, and have impeded the movements of the French troops on the coast. The plain around Kairouan has become a complete swamp, and it is feared the consequences will be serious for the health of the troops.

TUNIS, Dec. 5.—Ali Ben Halifa, who has now been joined by all the Arabs that have not submitted to the French, has retreated to the frontier of Tripoli. It has therefore been decided that General Logerot's column shall march southwards from Gabes, and endeavour to force Ali Ben Halifa into an engagement, but it is expected that the latter's forces will take refuge in Tripolitan territory.

TRIPOLI.

TRIPOLI, Dec. 7.—Intelligence received here states that a strong French column is approaching the Tripoli frontier, in pursuit of Tunisian insurgents. In consequence, the Turkish military commander here is despatching troops for the protection of the frontier.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 8.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day discussed the grants asked for by the government to defray the cost entailed by the creation of the two new Ministries. M. Gambetta stated that his object was to divide the labour of the public departments and to secure the better conduct of the affairs of the country. The grants were adopted by 389 votes to 103.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

BERLIN, Dec. 8.—It is semi-officially announced that the statement contained in a recent Paris letter of a London morning journal to the effect that the German Government was endeavouring to persuade England to seize Egypt, is nothing more or less than an invention. "The policy of Germany," it is added, "regards a good understanding between France and England as of the first importance for the peace of Europe, and its endeavours are," therefore, directed to promoting such an understanding. Professor Theodor Mommsen has written a letter to his constituents at Coburg, in which he states that the principal duty of the Liberals is to persevere doggedly in the path they have marked out for themselves until a second spring dawn upon Germany. The German people, he declares in conclusion, is not only more powerful, but also tougher than Prince Bismarck.

SPAIN AND BORNEO.

MADRID, Dec. 9, Evening.—In to-day's sitting of the Congress of Deputies, Senor Francisco Silvela, a former minister, asked the Government to communicate to the House all official documents relating to the seizure of English and American ships in the Sulu Archipelago by the Spaniards. It was arranged that these documents should be joined to those asked for by Senor Comanque for the purpose of his interpellation on the North Borneo question.

The Correspondencia of this evening says that Spain has made no concession to England in regard to this question.

RUSSIA.

St. PETERSBURG, Dec. 8, Evening.—The Novoe Vremya of this evening expresses indignation at the reference made in President Arthur's message to the representations made by the United States to Russia on the subject of the Jews. It says that the President has departed from the principle of the American policy of non-interference in the affairs of foreign countries. It remarks that the message did not refer to the English treatment of Ireland. The journal says:—"President Arthur recently repelled all interference with regard to the Panama Canal, and yet he allows himself to judge of Russian affairs, which he does not understand."

It is proposed to increase the Black Sea fleet by two ironclads, one of the type of the Prince Pjarski, and the other of the type of a cruiser. It is also proposed to increase the means of ship building at Sebastopol and Nikolajeff.

The trial is proceeding of the three officials who are charged with having contributed by their negligence to the assassination of the late Czar. The jury to-day visited the shop in the Garden-street where the mine was laid.

St. PETERSBURG, Dec. 9.—Yesterday's celebration of the Order of St. George at Gatchina, commenced at 11, and passed off in the usual manner.

The Emperor proposed the health of the Chevaliers of the Order, which was acknowledged by the Grand Duke Nicholas.

During the day, the Emperor Alexander addressed a telegram to the Emperor William, congratulating him on the occasion as the eldest and most celebrated knight of the Order of St. George.

BERLIN, Dec. 9, Evening.—According to intelligence from St. Petersburg, General Ignatieff and General Tchernev, the Assistant Minister of the Interior, recently tendered their resignations simultaneously to the Czar, in consequence of difficulties which had arisen between them with regard to the police measures against the Nihilists. The Emperor, however, after a consultation with both ministers, persuaded them to withdraw their resignations. It is feared that anti-Semitic riots in Ekaterinodar will be renewed in consequence of the late outbreak at Odessa.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 8.—The Governor of Salonica gives a contradiction to a statement telegraphed about a fortnight ago from Vienna to a London paper that some Turkish officers and soldiers had massacred a Christian family at Luca, a village in Macedonia.

TURKISH FINANCE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 8, Evening.—Mr. Bourke states that his instructions do not permit of his dispensing with the ratification by the bondholders of the arrangement for the settlement of the debt. He again tele-

graphed to London to-day insisting upon being furnished with the means necessary for rendering an arrangement possible, inasmuch as the Sultan's trade could not be submitted to the bondholders. Mr. Bourke maintains that the other foreign delegates were at the outset of the negotiations in agreement with him as to the necessity of ratification by the bondholders.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 9.—Mr. Bourke, in telegraphing to London, has asked to be authorised to accept the trade without the condition of the preliminary ratification by the bondholders.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT IN BELGIUM.
BRUSSELS, Dec. 9.—A despatch received here to-day states that an accident has occurred at the Cockerell Colliery, causing the death of 66 miners.

To-day, the explosion of fire-damp in the Cockerell coal mine was made the subject of an interpellation in the Chamber of Representatives by M. Neuman, who asked the Government what were the conclusions arrived at by the committee of inquiry into the question of fire-damp in mines.—M. Saintelette, Minister for Public Works, replied that the responsibilities of the various parties connected with mines would in future be clearly established.—M. Janson declared that, in his opinion, the responsibility of the owners of coal mines ought to be increased.

CYPRUS.

NICOSIA, Dec. 9.—Lieutenant H. H. Kitchener, Director of the Survey in Cyprus, has been shot at by a native while engaged surveying in the Limasol district. He escaped unhurt.

THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The death is announced of Colonel John W. Forney, of Philadelphia.

COLLISION ON THE NORTH LONDON RAILWAY.

A fatal collision between three passenger trains of the North London Railway Company, by which several persons lost their lives, and many others were injured, occurred on Saturday morning at the south end of the tunnel between Finsbury-park and Canonbury Stations. From the statement of some of the passengers it appears that the 9.13 train from Finsbury-park to Broad-street started from the former station in good time, and proceeded at the usual pace through the tunnel leading to Canonbury station until coming to the end where the lines cross, and here a terrific shock was felt, caused, it is stated, through the train coming in collision with a Chalk Farm train. The Finsbury Park train was thrown completely off the line, some of the carriages being entirely crushed to atoms. With the collision there arose a simultaneous cry of pain and fright from several hundred voices. The lights all went out at the same time, and the tunnel being perfectly dark, the greatest consternation prevailed. Several persons jumped out immediately, but in most of the carriages the doors had been so jammed in that it was with the utmost difficulty that they could be forced open. Matches were struck and newspapers lighted, and a number of gentlemen formed themselves into a band of relief, and whilst engaged in assisting other passengers out of the fractured carriages, a third train was observed coming through the tunnel. The driver was shouted to, and lighted papers waved, in the hope that he might stop the train, but the warning came too late, and in another moment the third train ran violently on to the debris of the other two trains. Each train was full of passengers, chiefly gentlemen, on their way to business, and it is estimated that there could not have been less than 1,500 persons in the three trains, of whom it is feared that beyond the great numbers who have sustained injuries, some of which are of a most serious character, many have lost their lives. Messengers were at once despatched to Canonbury and Finsbury-park Stations, and a break-down gang immediately set out for the scene of the accident. The cause of which it is surmised must be the defective working of the points or signals. Some idea of the violence of the collision may be gathered, when it is stated that at the very rear of the Finsbury Park train, the passengers were thrown from one side of the carriage to the other. The officials, although unable to give any definite statement as to the result of the accident, confirm the rumour that several persons must have suffered with their lives. All traffic to Broad-street was, in consequence, stopped.

TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION.

Sir F. Bramwell, F.R.S., on Friday night, in Drapers' Hall, distributed the prizes and certificates to the successful competitors in the Technological examinations held last May in ninety-two towns in Great Britain under the auspices of the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education. Sir F. Bramwell said the main object of the institute was to put within the reach of the British workman such a knowledge of the scientific principles which underlaid the industries in which he was engaged as would enable him to strike out original ideas for himself. Another object was to prevent those merely possessed of book learning from obtaining the first-class certificates of the institute. Last year 2,500 candidates applied to sit, but the applications for the examinations already amounted to a thousand more. Sir F. Bramwell pointed out to the successful students the fact that the processes in all industries were rapidly changing, and the workman who had only a knowledge of the present processes would soon be left behind in the race. The prizes were then distributed. Of the ninety winners of prizes and certificates, three, who had gained silver medals were present from Glasgow, Leeds, and Merthyr Tydfil, and one winner of a bronze medal from Liverpool. The medals were in each case accompanied by money prizes of £5, £3, and £2, the subjects covered being gas manufacture, wool-dyeing, brewing, photography, carriage building, plumbers' work, and electric instrument making and electric light respectively.

A WOULD-BE SUICIDE.—On the arrival of the 2.47 down Midland train at St. Albans on Friday, attention was called to a young woman in an unconscious state. The passengers travelling with her said that when they started from Kentish Town she was asleep. Ten minutes later she was convulsed, and handed them a paper on which was written: "I have been driven to poison myself." Medical assistance was called, and in course of an hour she was brought round. She then said that she belonged to Leicester, and that family trouble had led her to take a quantity of laudanum. Her friends were communicated with, but she declined to go to her home.

LATEST GENERAL NEWS.

"The Queen's Shilling."

On Friday, Mr. Justice Chitty, at the instance of Messrs. Hare and Kendall, granted an injunction restraining Mr. Barclay, of Kensington, from playing a piece called "The Queen's Shilling, or Enlisted," on the ground that it is an infringement of their copyright in another piece of the same name.

Dense Fog in the Metropolis.

The heavy fog, which from an early hour on Friday morning hung over the low-lying districts in the Valley of the Thames, deepened at about ten o'clock into perfect darkness, which hung like a black pall over the central parts of London. All the lamps, both gas and electric, were lighted, but the atmospheric conditions were so strange that in many localities they were useless. Traffic on the river was wholly stopped. The darkness extended as far as Tottenham, Stratford, Fulham, and Dulwich respectively, the neighbourhood of Paddington being the only suburb free. At about half-past one the atmosphere cleared up a little, but not sufficiently to allow gas to be dispensed with indoors, and artificial light had to be used during the remainder of the day.

The Ex-Empress Eugenie.

The Ex-Empress Eugenie still continues to improve in health, and her Majesty's visit on Thursday did the illustrious invalid considerable good. She did not take out-door exercise on Friday on account of the fog, which was very thick in the West-end.

Recent Wills.

The following wills have been recently proved. That of Sir John Charles Grant Ogilvie, of Grant, Earl of Seafield, Baron Strathguy of Strathguy, amounting to over £150,000. The Right Hon. W. Adam, late Governor of Madras, personality over £254,000; and Mr. Henry Saville, personality exceeding £118,000.

St. Paul's Industrial School.

A strange case came before Mr. Justice Chitty on Friday in connection with this school. Application was made to his lordship for the appointment of a receiver. It had come to the knowledge of the Rev. Mr. McCree, who took a great interest in industrial homes, that a lad in St. Paul's Home was entitled to £250 a year. It was a wretched case. The poor lad was dying of consumption, and as the Government certificate had been withdrawn from the school, he might be turned out at any moment. A sum of £25 was now asked for out of the property to which the child was entitled, to provide for him on coming out.—His lordship ordered the amount to be paid to Mr. McCree, and referred the appointment of a receiver to Chambers.

Sale of a Crown Farm.

The farm of Scalister, Caithness, has just been purchased from the Crown by Mr. John Miller, the present tenant, for £29,000. As his rent has hitherto been £975 a year, this sum is equal to about thirty years' purchase. The farm consists of 1,000 acres of arable land and a little over 500 acres of mountain pasture.

Accident in the Hunting Field.

Whilst out with the Pechey Hounds on Friday, Col. Crawford, of the Guards, met with a serious accident, his horse falling upon him broke his collar bone and jawbone, and he also received other injuries.

Serious Railway Collision.

A railway collision occurred on Friday between Porten and Edinburgh, by which two passengers were seriously hurt, and several others injured. On a passenger train to Edinburgh reaching Frome Knowe, the guard saw an engine and van coming up behind where a line takes a sharp curve. By signalling to the engine-driver the passenger engine moved forward some distance, but the engine behind ran into the passenger van and knocked it off the rails.

Shipping Disasters.

The steamer British King, which touched at Queens-town on the 2nd inst. en route from Liverpool for Philadelphia, put back on Friday with the loss of two blades of her fan. The accident occurred when she was 600 miles west of Cape Clear.

The barque Valdivia of Liverpool, bound from Glasgow, with a general cargo for Adelaide, put into Queens-town harbour on Friday with a loss of sails and boats.

Diplomatic Appointments.

Friday's Gazette announces the appointments of Sir J. H. Glover, B.N., G.C.M.G. (late Governor of Newfoundland), to be Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Leeward Islands, and Arthur Cecil Stewart Barkly, Esq., to be Chief Civil Commissioner for the Seychelles Islands.

The Rev. S. F. Green.

The petition for the release of the Rev. S. F. Green, which was signed by 14,000 laymen, has been laid before the Queen, and the Home Secretary informs the Archbishop of Canterbury that "her Majesty has not been pleased to give any instructions with reference thereto."

Robbery at a Manchester Jeweller's.

At the Manchester City Sessions on Friday, before Mr. H. W. West, Q.C., recorder, two men, named Campbell and Barrett, charged with breaking into a jeweller's shop in Manchester, and stealing four gold watches, were sentenced, the former to ten years' penal servitude, and the latter to eight years.

More Charges against Medical Officers.

Another shameful scandal in connection with public institutions was revealed on Friday, at a meeting of the Birmingham Workhouse Committee. It was stated that during an official inquiry into the conduct of a nurse who had been discharged by direction of the medical staff, several nurses and pauper patients declared that the medical officers resorted to a scandalous mode of punishing refractory inmates of the infirmary. The doctors had no power of punishment whatever, but they nevertheless directed blisters to be placed upon the necks, and shower baths to be administered to the paupers whenever they chose. It was stated that the effect of these punishments had been to cause paupers absolutely to refuse to re-enter the infirmary. The Committee passed resolutions that their entire want of confidence in Dr. of the staff, and asking for a local Government inquiry into the whole of the cases.

The Double Murder in St. Pancras.

Richard Hammett, aged thirty-nine, a general printer, of 20, Lancing street, St. Pancras, was charged on remand at the St. Pancras Police-court, on Friday, with having killed his two children, Albert, aged four years, and Arthur, aged twelve months, on the morning of the 13th of September last. He was further charged with attempting to commit suicide. The prisoner up to Saturday last had been an inmate of the University College Hospital. Mr. Poland, barrister, instructed by the Treasury, appeared for the prosecution, and the pri-

soner was undefended. After evidence had been given by Dr. Davies, Dr. Andrews, and by two policemen as to facts which have already been reported, Mr. Bond, resident medical officer at the University College Hospital, said he believed the prisoner when admitted to the hospital did not know what he was about. For several days he was delirious, and was occasionally violent. He was now well enough to be sent to prison, but required care. The prisoner being cautioned, said, "The only thing I wish to say is that I have no recollection of the sad affair whatever." He was sent for trial.

The Staffordshire Potters' Strike.

On Friday a deputation from the operatives waited on the masters, asking that the dispute should be referred to arbitration, and an accountant sworn to investigate the selling prices. The employers, after a long discussion, agreed to appoint an accountant to ascertain the selling prices in 1873 and 1881. If it should be found that prices have been lowered since work to be continued at last year's rates, but if no reduction be shown, then the advance asked for to be given. The manufacturers further agreed that a committee confer with the workmen to arrange rules for a new arbitration board. It is doubtful whether the dates selected will be acceptable to the men, as they contend that the whole period since 1872, when wages went up, should be taken into account.

LATEST FROM IRELAND.

Mr. Parnell in Prison.

Mr. Parnell has been ill in Kilmainham, and at a meeting to form a Prisoners' Aid Society, held in Dublin on Thursday, Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., having just been to visit Mr. Parnell in prison, said the indisposition was caused by the bad diet, which was enough to break down the strongest constitution.

Boycotting a Marquis.

The boycotting of the Marquis of Drogheda at his residence at Moore Abbey, co. Kildare, is still continued. All his labourers have left, and emergency men had to be brought down from Dublin to do the work on the estate, but no one in the locality will supply them with provisions. The marchioness is obliged to assist in the household duties, and superintend the milking of the cows.

The Defence of Property.

On Friday afternoon a deputation from the Property Defence Association waited upon the Lord Mayor (Alderman Elliot) to discuss with him in private the movement which his lordship has initiated for the defence of property in Ireland.

Prison Fare.

The prisoners in Galway gaol had to go on prison fare on Wednesday, as supplies were stopped from the Central office. It is said many, rather than submit, are contemplating asking to be released upon conditions.

Stabbing a Sergeant.

On Thursday, at the Dublin Police-court, a man named Swan was charged with wilfully setting fire to the Kevin-street Police Barracks. Swan was employed at the barracks, but was under notice of dismissal, and when arrested attacked a sergeant, and stabbed him in the cheek.

A Suspect Placard.

Two men were indicted at the assizes at Carrick-on-Shannon on Thursday charged with posting a "No Rent" placard at the door of a church. The fact of the notice having been posted by the prisoners was clearly proved by two sub-constables, who caught them in the act. It was contended for the prisoners that the posting of the notice was not a criminal offence, and Judge Fitzgerald adopting this view directed an acquittal.

Further Despatch of Troops.

The authorities have decided on dispatching another battalion of infantry to Ireland. The one selected is the 2nd of the Border regiment, formerly the 50th, now at Dover. It has received orders to proceed to Newry, and will be relieved by the 1st battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles, now returning home from Natal.

Land League Huts.

Two wooden huts, on the principle of the iron hut supplied to the constabulary, have been lying at the Ballina Railway station for the past few weeks. One of them was removed on Friday under the direction of an official of the Ladies' Land League and conveyed on four carts to Currow, to be erected for an evicted tenant or the holding of a neighbour. The police are watching them closely.

A Malicious Outrage.

The windows of twenty-nine houses and three street lamps were completely smashed on Thursday night at Salthill, a fashionable bathing place, about a mile from Galway. A reward of £250 has been offered for information that will lead to the arrest of the perpetrators of the outrage.

Charge Against a Member of the Ladies Land League.

At the Castletown Borehaven Petty Sessions, on Friday, Miss Reynolds, of the Dublin Ladies' Land League, appeared to answer a charge of intimidating a tenant of the Earl of Bantry, named Catherine Murphy, from paying her rent, and on a second summons she was charged with unlawfully inciting the same tenant not to pay her rent; but both cases were adjourned on the application of sub-Inspector Maxwell, because of the absence of a witness named White, a Cork bailiff. Miss Parnell was present in court.

"MY FELLOW TOILERS."

Mr. Howard Paul writes:—"On Christmas-day I intend giving a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding to a hundred of the poor 'sandwich men' who trudge the streets of London. On conferring with several gentlemen who have intimate dealings with the men, they advise me to make a public appeal, and perhaps funds may be forthcoming to extend the repast to the five hundred poor creatures who perambulate the streets in all weathers, with boards on their backs, for one and threepence a day. I have informed myself of the condition of these men, and some of their histories are positively pathetic. They are hopelessly broken-down, miserably poor, fairly temperate, and all are most willing to work. Two shillings will give a man a Christmas dinner, and I'll be glad to take charge of any contribution, no matter how small, and devote it to the object in question. As I said above, I have settled to give a hundred a 'good square meal,' and a pipe of 'tobacco to follow,' and if funds are forthcoming for the whole five hundred the better."

money. The £50 Hanlan is allowed, for rowing at Newcastle, is likewise being raised by private contributions. This, together with the fact that Boyd has had his own way in every other condition, leaves him no excuse for not getting out of the match, should he be between this and April be attacked with the flu. "—Both at Oxford and at Cambridge the trial eight, have been rowed, and the light blues send in the customary challenge within the next day or two. So far as one may judge from present appearances, Cambridge has far better material in the trials from whence to select an eight, than she had last year, and their prospects are already considered rosy by their partisans.

WILLIAM OF CLOUDESLY

THE GREAT JEWEL ROBBER.

Wallace Rios has improved the dull season of "all talk and no play" by entering into the bonds of holy matrimony. We are not, however, in a position to give particulars, simply because it has proved as reticent in you having information over the performance as he was ready to let his tongue on the intentions in regard to the championship. In the rowing way he is not likely to be heard from some time, to come, for Hanlan has arranged terms with Boyd. True, there is Frank's left, but the Australian is so wrapped up in mud pool rowing, that it is scarcely likely that these two big talkers will come to terms. Hanlan will row Boyd on the Tyne, and a subscription is being raised on behalf of the Englishman to aid him in finding the stake.

THE GREAT JEWEL ROBBER.

On Thursday morning the two suspected servants, Arthur Head, valet, and Amelia Gardner, first housemaid at Brynkinalt, were brought up at Llangollen, before Mr. G. L. Dickon and Major Coura, upon remand from Tuesday last. The prisoner Gardner, who was neatly attired in black, and of superior appearance, was defended by Mr. Roberts, of Ruthin. The late valet, Head, who is above the average height, was well and neatly dressed, and defended by Mr. Llewellyn Adams, of Ruthin. Lord Trevor was present, and was accommodated with a seat upon the bench. The prisoners on being placed in the dock were formally charged, to which a plea of not guilty was entered by the solicitors.—Mr. D. C. D. Wilde, who appeared for the chief constable, said he was instructed to ask their worship to grant a further remand of a week, when it was hoped that important evidence would be laid before their worship.—Mr. Adams said that personally he would not object to a remand. Lord Trevor had sustained a very heavy loss, and no one sympathised with him more thoroughly than he did, nor was there any one who was more anxious that full and complete justice should be done than he. He would ask his lordship in agreeing to the remand, if he would ask his lordship to give him the earliest opportunity for an independent and complete investigation of the case. He should like to know whether a plan of the house would be supplied. It was necessary to have one, for it was one of the most remarkable cases of robbery that had ever come under his cognisance. He was not aware what the prosecution intended doing, but he should very much like to have the servants called, particularly Digerry, the second footman; Morris, the under butler; Mr. Matthews, the cook; and Davies, the third housemaid. His object was this, the robbery had been committed from ten minutes to twelve and a quarter to one, and he wished to call the servants to show what the prisoner Head was doing. If he did, it would remove any doubt that he was the man; to bring such evidence would come more graciously from the prosecution, than for him to have to summon them. He was sure his lordship would do all in his power to assist.—Lord Trevor: I am in the hands of the police.—Mr. Wilde said that no doubt a plan would be produced, and that the servants would be examined.—Mr. Adams said he wished to insist the police in the matter, and to obtain justice.—A plan would be required for the information of the bench.—Mr. Roberts on behalf of the prisoner Gardner, said that he coincided in the remarks of Mr. Adams in every particular. Mr. Roberts also laid particular emphasis upon the necessity of having a plan.—His lordship promised to produce one.—Mr. Adams hoped that the case would be concluded on the day of the adjournment, because his client was suffering under very great hardship, and adjournments were very expensive.—Lord Trevor: It has been very expensive for me.—Some more details of evidence were then arranged, and the prisoners were remanded until Wednesday next at eleven o'clock.—Mr. Adams: I suppose the question of bail will be entertained by the court.—The Chairman: The charge is too serious for the question of bail to be entertained by us.

Mr. Collier held an inquest on Wednesday respecting the death of James Brummell, aged 27, a gardener, who expired on the previous Friday. The jury, of 12 men, who sat at the inquest at the residence of Mr. Arthur Ash, Norfolk, stated that the deceased was very broke, but she had not seen him since April last. She had no reason to believe that his mind was affected, although she heard that he had been in great trouble lately through family affairs. George Cooper said the deceased was his nephew. Witness last saw him alive on the 1st inst., when witness brought him to the hospital. Previous to that he was passing the house in which Brummell lived, when he heard moans. He ran into the house, and on going upstairs saw him up against the door, with a razor in his hand. Blood was pouring from his throat, and when witness removed him to the hospital he was not sensible. He had lately been in great trouble on account of his wife being insane and having to be removed to a lunatic asylum. His wife's mind had been affected for some three or four months, and since that time he had been very depressed and melancholy. A short time ago he was laid up with an attack of typhoid fever, but appeared all through his illness to be in a sensible state of mind. He had three children, and they also had been a source of trouble to him, as he had no one to properly look after them, and they were suffering from illness. On the 1st inst., Brummell was decidedly out of his mind, and when the witness left the house he was then in care of two women. Previous to this occurrence the wife of the deceased was getting better; but in hearing what her husband had done, she shook again unhinged her mind, and it had been found necessary to place her once more under restraint. Mr. Artlur, the coroner, house surgeon at the T. & N. Training Hospital, said that Brummell was admitted on Thursday last, suffering from an incised wound in the throat, which, in his opinion, was self-inflicted. He never rallied, and died shortly after from exhaustion and loss of blood. In summing up, the coroner remarked that the evidence they had heard told a sad tale of trouble.—The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst suffering from temporary insanity."

SUFFOCATED IN MUD.—On Friday, an inquest was held at Chelsea on the body of Thomas Porter, 49, years of age. The deceased was drinking at an inn on Saturday night from seven till nearly ten, and left in a state of intoxication. He fell in the gateway, and was picked up by two men, who took him into it, and at the bottom of a yard. There he appears to have lain down with his face in the mud, and to have been suffocated. The coroner's jury found till Monday morning. A verdict of "Died from suffocation, due to excessive drinking," was returned.

SUNDAY CLOSING IN WALES.—Mr. Justice Grove and Mr. Justice Lopes gave judgment on Wednesday in an appeal against the conviction by the Flintshire magistrates of a publican named John Richards, living at Saltney, for having his shop closed on Sunday, the 11th of September. The case turned on the question which arose as to the date on which the new Act came into operation, and their lordships held that the magistrates were wrong in convicting in the case, as the words of the statute "day next appointed" meant the day that should after the enactment of the Act be next appointed. The appeal was therefore allowed.

The appeal was therefore allowed.

HOPES FOR THE CRIMINAL CHANCES.—Mr Howard Vincent, the Director of the Criminal Investigation Department, speaking on Thursday at the annual supper to the criminal classes, given by the Little Waddington Mission, said that he should be always prepared to make every effort to obtain honest employment for those who had given way to criminal temptations and paid the penalty of the law. But while he said that, and he trusted to have full sympathy of the public in his aim, it was to be understood that even as he was directed with the police authorities to employ all the resources of industry and science in his department to find out what were the causes which led men beyond it, even if it were happy man, it had no real interest in them now that they were outside the law; he thought there of the spot where he was damned, and he was damned rooted by the rope, and was in constant dread of apprehension, which which was certain to be effected sooner or later. On the other hand, the honest labour offered them a sufficiency, a happy home, and peace of mind.

Whatever may be said as to its probable permanence, there can be no doubt: as to the fact of at least a partial revival of interest in the long-disused "science" of boxing; and it is to be presumed many people are to be found who read with pleasure the hashed-up accounts of former famous prize-fights, which the editors of certain newspapers present for their entertainment. The attempt to revive what its advocates describe as a "good old English custom," and a "manly" way of settling quarrels, cannot be too promptly nipped in the bud. It may be said that there is no real danger of so brutal a pastime ever again becoming popular in the refined and æsthetic England of the present day; but those who have read history will hardly endorse the sentiment.

In January, 1934, a writer in the *United Service Journal* says, concerning the prize-ring, that though it "has for a short period been at its lowest ebb, impudent attempts are being made to bring it again into fashion; and though such efforts must eventually prove unavailing, yet before they are suppressed, and their authors punished, an extensive field of fraud may be re-opened, with countless ramifications of imposition," throughout the country. That "such efforts" did not "prove unavailing" the history of the prize-ring during the subsequent twenty years abundantly testifies; and it is within the easy recollection of not old men that a most popular Prime Minister, if he did not actually and personally patronise a memorable display of brutality, known in the annals of the "ring" as an "international contest," at all events winked at the event as one not undeserving the sympathy and support of gentlemen.

gentlemen. Let us for a moment consider the influence of prize-fighting. If we look at the men of whom, in the days of its glory, the prize-ring was almost exclusively composed, we find that they belonged to the very lowest classes of society, their ranks being recruited by burglars, pick-pockets, "smashers," and not infrequently by actual murderers. It is from gentlemen of this stamp that we are exhorted to learn courage and true manliness. Perhaps we might take a lesson in honesty at the same time, for in the palmy days of the ring it was common for these models of manliness not only to "sell" their fights and so swindle their patrons, backers, and the public, but to mutilate, waylay, and sometimes even to murder members of their own fraternity. A second, moreover, whose duty it is supposed to be to do all in his power to help his principal to win, would, occasionally, deliberately drug or maim him in the middle of the fight in order to cause him to lose the wager.

But in spite of the character of the professors of the noble art, when men of means and title became their patrons, it is surprising how blind magistrates became. On the occasion of a real fight (of which, doubtless, there were a few), or the perpetration of those sham exhibitions in which the event was settled beforehand, the whole country round was thrown into a state of disorder, and passengers upon every road leading to the focus were exposed to pillage and outrage of the gentlemen connected with the ring. The police, however, and the magistrates, and even the law itself, were—or professed themselves to be—powerless to prevent this concourse of ruffianism. Of course, those who talk of a revival of the "sport" deprecate the revival of its inevitable concomitants, but the ring is necessarily base and brutal both in itself and in its surroundings. Take the details of a "glove-fight," which took place in a Music Hall at the East-end of London on the 1st of February, 1877. "It began," says an eye witness, "by this time to be extremely painful to see these two men, rough and homely may be, but staunch as heroes, sent up round after round, when there was hardly an ounce of strength left in either body. What they lacked in dash they made up in determination, and round and round the ring they hammered and fought, until, spent and almost fainting, they would be carried to their corners, there to be refreshed with great pieces of ice on their temples, and otherwise attended to. Now and then a diversion would be caused by the seconds just to give the fighters a few additional moments, but do what they would, there was the absolute truth staring every one in the face, that if this thing were to continue, there was no knowing how it might end. The beat, the horrible din, and the vitiated atmosphere must have told on the men, who were besides so badly 'spent with changing blows,' and if one of them had fallen down in a fit no one among the company could have been in the least surprised. At last, when two hours and a quarter had elapsed, and when a round more than usually painful to witness had just been concluded, when, too, it seemed harder than ever to tell what would be the ultimate issue, somebody proposed that the combatants should shake hands and make a draw, a proposition which so met the views of those most interested that it was at once carried into effect. The fighters were then carried away, and I sincerely hope put to bed, and the whilom spectators crowded out to the nearest public-house, there to 'give their minds to drinking,' and to explain to each other how easy it would have been for — or — to have won the fight, if they, the speakers, had only been consulted."

Here we have the narrative of a glove fight, mind—from the pen, not of a professed philanthropist, or a sensational descriptive writer, but of a sporting contributor to a well known weekly newspaper, and advocates of the "ring" may safely be challenged to find in his account anything likely to create a "manly" spirit in the exhibition. Those who prefer the details of a real fight may read the account of the inquest held a few days since on Plant, who was killed in a match with Arnold, or the report of the trial at which Arnold was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and a number of his "pals" to shorter terms.

The *United Service Journal* of January, 1834, already quoted, gives a list of forty-two notorious prize fighters, of whom six were hanged, one for the murder of a woman, and eighteen transported, all for crimes of unmanly kinds.

Of course we do not pretend to say that the patrons of the prize-ring in the past were parties to the crimes, the treachery, the deceit, the politroonery of their *protégés*. On the contrary, the higher class supporters of the "ring" were more often than not the victims of what, by "the fancy" was termed "crossing;" that is to say, they were swindled by the men in whom they were foolish enough to confide; and the latter, while adding their generous patrons, were frequently sold themselves by their own accomplices. For, in the "ring" dog did eat dog, spite of the proverb. Thus, for instance, one Martin, a pugilist, and keeper of a public-house, appeared before a police magistrate to make a complaint against his friend Dutch Sam, also a pugilist

who, he said, had taken advantage of his illness to seduce his wife and rob the till. As soon as Martin recovered his health, a match was made for these two to fight for a prize. Many people who were interested in the ring believed, and said, that Dutch Sam could never meet a man whom he had so grievously injured, and whose peace he had destroyed, but the "fancy" industriously put it about that Martin, instigated by deadly revenge, intended if he could to kill Sam, or himself to perish. The consequence was that immense sums were bet upon Martin. The fight was "a cross;" and Dutch Sam afterwards avowed that until he was entering the ring, he did not know whether he was to win or lose the fight. He then received orders to win, and Martin was directed to lose. The two obeyed their instructions! One word of comment upon this transaction would be superfluous.

Another Dutch Sam—father of the above—on one occasion entered a mob in which a brother boxer had attacked a bold and resolute sailor, and had got beaten for his pains. Dutch Sam picked up his friend, and endeavoured to bring him again to the scratch. "I can't sir," said the discomfited rogue, "I'm beat, and can't come another round." "Only stand to your man, and fall among the crowd at the first blow, and see what I'll do for you," said Sam. The pugilist took the hint, and fell among the crowd. It was dark, and Sam, in the pretended office of picking up his man, fell over him, and rising suddenly in his stead, attacked the exhausted sailor, and beat him unmercifully, the bystanders not noticing in the darkness and confusion the substitution of one boxer for the other.

In one well-known "cross" fight, Oliver was backed at odds to beat Painter, and large sums of money depended upon the result. "The whole scene," says a writer who described the affair, "shows the heartless villainy and cowardly treachery of these pugilists towards each other. Oliver had so persuaded his bosom friend, his old benefactor, Tom Belcher, who was his second and backer to a large amount, that the fight was to be honest, that Belcher continued to bet largely, and saw with glee that his friend was winning the day. In the twelfth round, Oliver fell as flat as a pantaloons, from an obviously ineffectual blow on the side of the head. He pretended to be utterly senseless. He was a man who could bear an incredible amount of real punishment; no man in the ring could surpass him in this point. When Belcher saw the 'cross,' he lifted up the prostrate man, and ground his teeth through his ear, to leave him no pretext, or no power, of not rousing to time. So capable was the scoundrel of enduring pain—so callously were his nerves in unison with his heart—that he evinced not the slightest emotion, but lay as if dead, until time was called and the fight was lost. By this cross the fellow cleared £200."

There is no need to multiply illustrations of the "manly sport" which it is now sought to revive, but it may be hoped that, unless men really wish to lose their money by becoming the dupes of execrable tricksters, they will discountenance every attempt to re-introduce prize-fighting. If the patrons of real sport will abstain from all patronage of the "ring," and magistrates and police do their duty by punishing all those who encourage prize-fighting—whether patrons, publicans, or pugilists—we may fairly hope that the effort at its revival made by the interested few will prove a failure.

Early on Monday morning the residences of Mr. R. Lee Bevan, of Brixworth, and of the Hon. and Rev. G. Howard-Vyse, of Boughton, both magistrates for the county, and who live at villages a few miles from Northampton, were burglariously entered. At the first-mentioned place the thief was disturbed, and decamped without any spoil; but at the house of Mr. Vyse he succeeded in carrying off about £60 in gold and notes, besides some plate. About a quarter to five o'clock the same morning, Police-constable Chapman, of the county constabulary, was on his beat at a place called Boughton Turn, when he noticed a man coming towards him along the highway in the direction of Northampton. The fellow jumped over a hedge into a field adjoining the road, and the constable's suspicions being aroused, he followed. Brought to bay, the man presented a revolver at Chapman, saying that if he followed farther he would shoot him. "Shoot on," said Chapman, and with that raised his staff to strike him. At the same moment the stranger fired, and the bullet passed through the constable's overcoat, just grazing the shoulder. He at once closed with his assailant, and a desperate struggle ensued. Both were heavy men, but the stranger, though underneath, had the advantage, as he shot at his adversary twice or thrice. One bullet, however, alone took effect, and this, when the men's faces were within a few feet of each other, passed through Chapman's shako, from front to back, within an inch of his skull. Confused with the dash and smoke in his face, the constable, after a brief but plucky resistance, rolled over, and his antagonist, pointing his revolver within a few inches of his face, threatened to blow his brains out if he stirred. Chapman, having lost his staff in the struggle, had no means of coping successfully with his opponent, who, rising at once made off. The constable followed him into Northampton, where he lost him, but the police are energetically prosecuting inquiries. Chapman, it is evident, had a narrow escape. His overcoat was covered with mud, and the end of his nose bitten by his assailant in the struggle. Unfortunately it was so dark at the time that Chapman will have some difficulty in recognising his gain.

Mr. Ince, Q.C., applied on Friday to Mr. Justice Chitty in an action of Hickman v. Hickman for an injunction against the Revs. Alphonsus David and—McKenna, restraining them from holding communication, personal or otherwise, with the plaintiff or inducing him to become a Roman Catholic and abandon the Protestant faith. The plaintiff has been a ward in Chancery, and is a son of the defendant, the Rev. Walter Richard Hickman, vicar of St. James's, Croydon. The plaintiff is between 15 and 17 years of age, and is being educated at a Protestant school at Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, but will shortly visit his father for the Christmas holidays. On a former occasion when he came to Croydon, the priest got hold of him and tried to induce him to abandon his religion. By his affidavit, the father swore that he in no way sanctioned the secession of his son from his own church, nor gave him any encouragement in this direction. On the son's last visit, the father was astonished at discovering that the boy had put up in his room an imitation of a Catholic order. He remonstrated with him, and after giving him books on the logical subjects to read, the matter was dropped, and he was under the impression that the son had abandoned the idea of changing his religion. He had, however, since then had thoughts of doing so, and he says that some of the monks had been begging of him to join the order, and that he had been in the habit of attending at private conversations with both gentlemen. Fearing that this might be repeated when his son came home at Christmas, he moved for the injunction of the Court. The documents did not appear—there was an informality in the proceedings against Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Justice Chitty granted the injunction against the Rev. Alphonsus David only, in the terms of the motion of variation.

THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The local paper published at Allahabad thus refers to Lord Ripon's allusion to the Queen on the occasion of the Viceroy's recent speech at Delhi:—"It is with a sense of deep regret that one feels how serious the encroachments of Ministerial authority in the Government of India have tended to interpose a barrier between our gracious Sovereign and the people of this country; how much more now the Viceroy's time being represents the Secretary of State for India than the time being represents the Queen herself, the personification that is of the empire; and how the ugly shadow of distant democracy interposes itself between the Sovereign and the people. The Viceroy gathers up and centres in his person the sympathy of which he speaks. It is he that the people of England have outgrown in loyalty to the Throne, but that is certainly not the case with the people of India, and the Queen's name is still a name to be feared and loved. But what are the sentiments of our Indian people? They may say they cannot rob the Queen of her Indian Empire—for they cannot in these days be regarded as her's individually. But can they say, with equal as good show of reason, that they have not robbed India of its Queen?" Other newspapers refer in like repeating terms to the demerits of the Viceroy's speech.

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

From Punch.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM?

"It is now definitely understood that Cetewayo will visit England in the spring."—*Durban Correspondent of Daily Paper.*

How will he come to us? What will he say to us? Who is to board him and who is to pay? Will he be for kingdom and liberty pray to us, And dine on raw dog in his primitive way? Will he revel in parties, receptions, and gaieties, Inspect a red "Impi" on Aldershot Downs? Help at the Boat-race, and found a new hospital? Call on Sir Bartle, and then ride to hounds? Shall we lodge him in Newgate? or feast him at Claridge's? Guard him with "Bobbies," or let him walk free? Shall we drive him in one of her Majesty's carriages? What, in fact, is his status to be? Will he go to the Tower, and "eat up" the Beef-eaters? Do the Aquarium, and lunch on the crowd? Star as a lion in black inexpressibles, Visit the Opera, and there yawn aloud? Will he stand for a Borough? And what are his politics? Does he belong to the "Radical Tail?" Has he heard of our Randolph? Prefers he our Chamberlain?

What are his views on the right of free sale? Ah, but perhaps he is coming to talk to us Of Zululand's troubles—of which he is one. Can not he write it? And why should his Majesty Plague us again with a tale that is Down?

A SHOCK TO GLENELG.

The strange shock of an earthquake, although very slight, Was, we read at Glenelg, felt one Saturday night; And what's more, as we read further on, it appears 'Tis the third time an earthquake has come in three years.

If the place upside down had been turned, just the same 'Twould have been, as you'll see if you read o'er the name.

BITTERS AT THE CLUB.—MacStodge (Pictor ignotus): Who's that going out?—O'Duffin (Pictor ignotus): One Ernest Raphael Soppy, who painted Lady Midas!—MacStodge: Oh, the Artist!—O'Duffin: No. The Royal Academician!

EFFECT OF EPISCOPAL INFLUENCE.—It's all very well to become a Radical and an Atheist, and all that; but a bishop's a bishop! So at least poor Todeason finds out, when the Bishop of Chichester (whom he once met at a garden party—long ago) takes him for somebody else, and favours him with a gracious wave of the hand—thereby reclaiming him back to the bosom of the Established Church.

MORE APPROPRIATE.—On Wednesday, last week, as per announcement, the Festival of the Patron of Scotland, St. Andrew, was celebrated at Eton College "with the annual foot-ball matches." It ought to have been Hop-Scotch.

THE BOY AT RUGBY JUNCTION.—Ticket Collector Punch: Now, young gentleman, going to Staff rd?—Master Georgey Joey Goschen: Oh dear, no!—rather the other way. But I do like stopping on this platform. It's a nice rest, and one can see such a lot that's going on, you know.

At the Smoke Abatement Meeting, Coles, of Kensington, blazed away on the burning question. He was interrupted by applause, but as no cold water was thrown on his suggestion, he was not put out. First Coles! Live Coles!

The best way to afford instant relief to any one suffering from water on the brain is to give him a good tap on the head.

(From Fun.)

CAVEAT LESSOR.

THE IRISH QUESTION SETTLED!

Hurrah! I've managed to invent A cure for Irish discontent: The "finest notion," you'll agree, It's only just occurred to me. If you will credit what I say, It came to me this very day. As I was walking home from town; And then and there I wrote it down. There's not a man from coast to coast With smaller tendency to boast; But this I say (without conceit), "That notion would be hard to beat."

If you'll believe me, when I found That notion out, I gave a bound— A skip—a hop—a jump of joy— If you'll believe me, like a boy!

My plan will simply sweep away The tenant's grievance from to-day; 'Twill cut completely, I repeat, The ground from underneath his feet.

So far from showing discontent About his present bogie Rent, He'll view with neither rage nor blame Unbounded raising of the same!

He will, I beg you understand, Approve the poorness of the land, Receiving not the slightest shock At finding absolutely rock.

The plan I've managed to invent Is—Let the landlord pay the rent— The tenant's price, you understand, For kindly living on the land.

The landlord is to pay for all Improvements, whether great or small; The tenant to receive so much as For giving his consent to such.

And when the tenant wants to cease His tenancy, and sell his lease, The landlord must redeem the same At any price the man may name.

The tenant, further, shall receive A certain solid sum to leave; The other tenant coming in Receiving something to begin.

And then the former tenant can Appeal as an evicted man; The landlord then must reinstate, Or adequately compensate.

Suppose the landlord's choice to run On reinstating No. 1, Then further justice he must do By compensating No. 2.

The two, by mutual consent, Can then demand augmented rent; This increase (which he can't impeach) The landlord now must pay to each.

The land, when seven years have flown, Shall now become the tenant's own, The landlord paying cent. per cent. Increase upon the former rent.

The landlord further, on request, Shall pay arrears of interest On all the improvements, mulets, and rent. A solid sum shall then be paid For parting with improvements made; The landlord to be held in blame For future wear and tear of same.

In case of any landlord shot, Or even whether hit or not, That landlord, or his heirs, if dead, Shall compensate for waste of lead.

At this, a distant future date, It gratifies me much to state That this my plan has now been tried.

The tenant isn't satisfied.

THE CROWN.—At a special meeting of Aberdeen Liberals held the other day, among other resolutions passed for improving the condition of the canny Scotch agricultural labourers was one "That the freedom of cropping be granted to tenants." Ear of corn cropping, we hope, not the human ear; there's quite enough of that going on in the Emerald Isle at present, done in the most free-and-easy-way.

(From Judy.)

THE STAFFORD BEERKE.

"The electors of Stafford have administered to the Government the severest rebuke which the Ministerial

policy has yet received at the hands of the country."—*The Standard.*

Mr. Gladstone has praised him "with a trowel."

As Shakespeare has phrased it, to help Mr. Howell; But the Stafford electors were otherwise minded.

By the Premier's soft swarder they would not be blinded.

So to William they made this plain-spoken avowal.

You may keep him yourself; we don't want Mr. Howell.

There's a rock right ahead, and the shock won't be lenient.

For Rock-Salt is the name of that rock inconvenient;

And if Howell collides 'gainst that obstacle massive,

Which uprises in Stafford, both briny and passive,

Wipe your tears with your kerchief—for rhyme's sake say "towel!"

It's all up with your friend; you may howl for your Howell!

In a word, Mr. Salt is our dearly beloved,

And no other on earth for our member we covet;

His thoughts and his words have a true Tory savour,

And the salt of his politics won't lose its flavour.

Quid plura? The Tory is duly elected.

And Howell's gone back to his petron respected.

Had the Government's man in the strife been victorious,

How the "Rada" would have shouted, "A triumph!"

Oh, glorious!"

But now that they're worsted and everywhere cut-on.

They declare with a sneer, "It don't matter a button."

You, William, know better, despite of their spurning

You see with dismay that the current is turning;

And as things are now going, my dear Mr. Gladstone,

I fear that you soon must be called Mr. Sedstone!

THE BISHOP OF WAGGA-WAGGA.

"The Hon. J. Campbell has set aside £10,000 for the endowment of a new diocese in which Wagga-Wagga will be included."—*Sydney Mail.*

Where Sir Roger roamed a wag, a Wag obese, in Wagga-Wagga.

Now a bishopric they've founded, Through the charity unbought.

Of John Campbell, whom I never Heard before—did you ever?

Who shall Bishop be devoted To this diocese so noted?

Judy has a bright suggestion Now to offer on this question:

Take the nobleman unfort—

—nate, who pines in chains unholy;

Listen to the prayers import—

—nate of friends both high and lowly;

Send him off (oh, do not lag a Moment more) to Wagga-Wagga;

Greater prelate you'll never find up—

Let the Claimant be the Bishop.

VULT EPISCOPARI.

FROM ISLINGTON.—Some people are never satisfied—

not even with the pigs at the Cattle Show! "Both your Cattle Show," grunts old Mr. Kerr Mudgeon;

"it's a regular swindle—why, when all said and done, it's all stuff and nonsense."

"PUT HIM IN THE KALENDAR."—Inspector: Who is the patron saint of England?—Boy: St. George.—Inspector: The patron saint of Scotland?—Boy: St. Andrew.—Inspector: Of Ireland?—Boy: Mr. Gladstone. [Good boy! So he is.]

THE STATE OF IRELAND.—Murphy (in the law, to his two now clerks).—An' now, bhoyus, listen to me: I'll have no fightin' in me office. If a clerk of mine was to kill another clerk, bedad, I'd just sack the pair of them.

(From Funny Folks.)

PACKED PATRIOTISM.

"Old suspects have been liberated for want of prison accommodation for the new arrests."—*Daily Paper.*

How lucky is the old "suspect!"

His loss is now his gain,

His quick release he may expect,

And not expect in vain.

The rush increases day by day,

As turns Corcoran's screw,

And stale offenders must make way For others crisp and new.

The goals are full, and bulging quite

As far as stone permits;

Another captive and they might Fly off in little bits!

GONE TO FOR.—The great potteries strike in Staffordshire has now entered upon the third week, and the masters, who are the big "pots," and the men, who may be described figuratively as the "ewers of wood," are less inclined than ever to give in. What a pity it is that such a trade, the members of which are almost of the same kith and kin, cannot get rid of its family "jar."

THE MONARCHS OF THE "SEES."—The Bishop of Manchester having declared himself opposed to Ritualistic practices, which he will do all in his power to put down, is stated by the High Church clergy of his diocese to have joined "The Pirates of Penzance."

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT.

"In the Court of Queen's Bench, a firm of general dealers has been prosecuted for having created a nuisance by exhibiting photographs of statesmen, and even bishops, in ridiculous attitudes, and thereby creating an obstruction."—*Daily Paper.*

Now picture-dealers shall no more From out their photographic store,

Récherché delicacies dish up, No more the actresses' pretty soul!

Shall ogle, standing cheek by jowl With attitudinising bishop.

Unheard be 'Arry's strident laugh At sight of comic photograph

Of Mr. Spurgeon, tricked out quaintly, Of Lady Courtes a sump'ring girl,

Of Gladstone dancing pons de sap, Or Bradlaugh trying to look saintly.

Lord Shaftesbury sowing youth's wild oats, Lord Randy dressed in petticoats;

Sir Wilfrid drinking healths in whisky; The Prime at the Gaiety,

Tipping winks to Connie G., Or throwing somersaults quite frisky.

Land Leaguers must not block the way, Caricature them how we may;

For all such whimsical production Shall be but memories of the past,

Since law has blown its counterblast, That is to sweep away Obstruction.

(From Moonshine.)

What Master Herbert Gladstone does in Ireland, where his very name irritates alike the plundered and the plunderer, it would be well to know. Is it the Prime Minister that is to be, inspecting his future property, the parliamentary schoolboy let out to see an amusing show, or the son of the Premier sent forth in the hope, by his glorious presence, to win the rebel province back to loyalty and order at a nod? Whatever the motive, the only result seems to be that a lot more harmless cattle are mutilated than before. The expedition of the memberette for Leeds is an absolute menace to ox-tail soup.

From the martyrs in Kilmainham the latest news is that Mr. Dillon M.P., is falling away upon his prison diet, and that Mr. Parnell M.P., is not so stout as he was. The *Freeman's Journal* thinks that both gentlemen ought to be let out; we should say rather that their waistcoats ought to be taken in.

After eighteen months of litigation, despite the obvious intention of the Act of Parliament, despite the notoriety of the offence, the Bradlaugh case has to be begun over again. We are not vindictive, we do not care whether the fine is exacted or not, but surely where such a judicial farce is possible, our legal system needs modifying. If the one hundred or so legal gentlemen in the House would agree, the easiest remedy would be to abolish the laws in a body and codify the quibbles.

At Bristol, Mr. Fry, M.P., declared for the admission of Bradlaugh; Mr. Samuel Morley, on the other hand, was prepared to give up his seat rather than vote Bradlaugh into the House. It is a pity that Mr. Morley has awakened so late, for without him the difficulty could hardly have arisen. However, better late than never. We are sorry for Mr. Bradlaugh, who is to be Fryed without butter; we are afraid he will be burnt.

When Chairmen of Committees on the London School Board visit districts they are not content with cab or rail, but require a two-horse equi page, and I say Mr. Rose, have a weakness for a pair of spanking grays. The two

principal offenders are the two last persons who would be suspected of a leaning for the panoply of pride—Messrs. Mark Wilks and Lyolph Stanley. Radicals that they are too. It is not said what style Mr. Scrutton affected; we suppose he drove tanned.

You are not to have any more smoke; the smoke abatement gentlemen do not like it. One of them has patent smokeless stoves to sell you, and another has patent smokeless fuel to dispose of. When your chimneys do not smoke your roses will grow; the smoke abatement gentlemen love roses, but do not love sweeps. It is philanthropy.

We do not believe much in imprisonment for bribery so long as judges are made out of political barristers, Home Secretaries from platform pugilists, Prime Ministers from those who can make the longest speech. The Macleodless victims have the moral advantage over all these, they paid for the votes they got; there is less self-sacrifice in bribing by word of mouth than in dis-burging for what you ask for in specie.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From Truth.)

The marriage of Prince Leopold will be celebrated at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, either during the last ten days of March, or during the first fortnight of May. It is impossible to make any more definite settlement as to time, until the financial question has been settled by Parliament. The arrangements respecting the ceremony will be precisely similar to those at the wedding of the Duke of Connaught.

The Duke and Duchess of Albany will reside permanently at Claremont after their marriage. The Duke's books, pictures, and other "properties" have recently been removed there from Windsor.

With regard to the pecuniary arrangement, it will be proposed, probably on Monday, Feb. 13, to increase the Prince's income by £10,000 a year, and the same jointure will be provided for the Princess as was given to the Duchess of Connaught. Claremont was settled on the Queen for her life, after the death of King Leopold; on the demise of the Crown it will revert to the country. There is an idea in Court circles of proposing to grant a reversion of the place to Prince Leopold, but Parliament long ago showed itself so decidedly adverse to arrangements of this description, that the project will doubtless be dropped.

Sir Stafford Northcote, who is staying at Fynes, took part in an entertainment which was given on Friday evening at Theberton, in aid of a fund for repairing the church. Sir Stafford, who was most cordially received by a crowded audience, read the trial scene from "The Merchant of Venice," and one of the *Spectator* papers on Sir Roger de Coverley.

As if the ordinary expenses of a fancy-dress ball were not sufficient, certain ladies now frequently appear at the same fancy-ball in two different characters, retiring to change their dress before supper, and re-appearing in a different costume.

At a recent festivity of this nature, the Countess of Beattie appeared first as Mary Queen of Scots, and later as a shower of gold. I wonder whether these costumes were of "Bradford" make? Mrs. Cornwallis West, on the same occasion, appeared in two consecutive characters, the Comtesse Paradis, from "La Mascotte," and the Princess in the "Forty Thieves."

Lord Clanwilliam's detached squadron will break up next month, when the Barchants will return home through the Suez Canal, while the Admiral, with the other ships, will come back round the Cape. The announcements that have appeared respecting the future of the young Princes are altogether speculative, but I believe it is settled that, after a short term of military education, Prince Albert Victor will pass a year at each of the Universities, and will, besides, spend some time in Germany.

The habit of Conservative and Liberal members staring in the provinces during the vacation is a new one, and is deprecated by the newspapers, who have an uneasy feeling that the public are ready to pay more attention to the utterances of cognate personages than to the lectures of anonymous oracles. The "I," in fact, is driving the "we" to the wall. So long as there are two parties, each striving to make out that Short is the man, and not Codlings, political coddlings and Shorts will deal more in invective against each other than in argument, and in this style of oratory, I am bound to say, that Lord Randolph Churchill is as good a hand as anyone in the country. His Manchester speech was clever and pointed. He had thoroughly got up his facts before perverting them to party purpose, and some of his epigrams were, if not true, *bon trovato*.

The days of singular bequests are not over. A lady—Mrs. Arabella King, of Kentish Town—recently deceased, has bequeathed to the churchwardens of St. George's-in-the-East, £300, the interest from which is to be devoted to the purchase of coats and cloaks for the benefit of poor old people attending the parish church. The same testator leaves £100, the dividends from which are to be applied to provide "a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding every Christmas day for children attending the parish church." A stipulation is that such dinner is not to include any alcoholic drink.

I am told Mr. Paul Bert's position has been compared with that of Mr. Bright, who, although a Friend, holds a post which includes a considerable amount of Church patronage. I have reason to believe that Mr. Bright is (and was during his last term of office) only the *de jure* patron of the livings in the gift of the Duchy of Lancaster; and that all vacancies have been filled up by Mr. Gladstone.

From the World.

I hear that, at more than one club, in view of the approaching termination of the year, the committee have been requested by certain Irish members, dire sufferers from the state of affairs existing in their country, to allow the payment of their subscriptions to stand over until happier times. I understand, too, that there is a general disposition to comply with the request.

A nobleman who inherited a very fine property in the Midland Counties eleven years ago, contains some of the richest and best-cultivated land in England. He finds himself now, in these bad times of agriculture, with ten large farms thrown on his hands. The tenants on most of these farms were almost patriarchal, the leases having descended from father to son for a hundred and fifty or two hundred years.

The Duke of Marlborough, the sale of whose valuable and really priceless library is making such a stir in the bibliographical world, has at this moment more than 5,000 acres of land thrown on his hands.

In Lincolnshire, many of Mr. Chaplin's and other gentlemen's farmers have been allowed to remain on to cultivate the land without paying rent at all.

On *dit*, that, in order to give greater *clat* to the somewhat vicious proposals which the Government have in contemplation, the Queen has been already asked to open Parliament in person, and that so far the Royal consent has not been obtained. Those who know, however, say that, as matrimonial provision will be asked for Prince Leopold and his bride, the Queen may yet consent personally to express her gratification at the approaching union of her favourite son.

The Duke of Rutland has been forbidden by his medical advisers ever to mount a horse again. His Grace will, however, keep up his celebrated pack and his large stud of hunters as usual. The *Red Fox* Hounds will be hunted by his brother, Lord John Manners, and other members of the family during the present season.

If Mr. Parnell should still be taking his case in Kilmainham when Parliament meets, the nominal leadership of the Parnellite party will fall to the lot of Mr. Justin McCarthy, who will be assisted by Mr. T. P. O'Connor as chief lieutenant. Both leader and assistant will thus be journalists.

It is certain, whether Mr. Parnell and his three parliamentary colleagues remain in prison or not, that the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne will be met by a direct negative from the Parnellite party, now numbering thirty-one members—out of prison.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar allowed the regimental bands at Portsmouth to play, on Sunday evening, sacred music on Southsea Pier; and, in spite of pious protestations and clerical mem-morials, stubbornly refused to see the propriety of such a concession. Now his Serene Highness, as well as the naval Commander-in-Chief, has given his patronage to Sunday evening concerts at the Southern port, to be held in a commodious hall on the pier.

It behooves all right-minded persons to combine in stamping out the foul practice of body-snatching, which

threatens to become a re-established abomination in our midst. While sympathising with the family who have sustained an outrage so inhuman and insulting to a revered memory, it is impossible to refrain from hoping that no reward will be offered for the missing corpse. Doubtless a line of conduct so unselfish and public-spirited would meet with opposition in some quarters; but if no measures are taken to discourage these ghasts from instituting a loathsome commerce, the sooner cremation is made compulsory the better.

This "order" grievance is always a burning one with foreigners. The doctors, who met here last August, liked our dinners, but they looked very black when they found that the Congress ended without the scramble for crosses, which is the invariable finale of such gatherings on the continent. They will, however, be gratified with "Dannebrog," and should they meet in Copenhagen next year. Indeed this is one of the drawbacks to London as the rendezvous for these international scientific crushes. The seconds must have a cross. To them they are what scalp is to the Red Indians; and if the Congress of geographers do not meet in London five years hence, this will be the main obstacle which has prevented them. Let them select Weimar or Monaco, and the price of the metal market will be affected, while the Cross of Lazare and Maurice, being already granted to anybody who asks for it, cannot be made much more laughable if it is tossed to everybody who went to Venice last autumn.

A CRUEL HOAX.

On Tuesday a riot of an unusual character occurred at Tottenham. An advertisement had appeared in a morning paper for twenty strong men to dig trenches, application to be made at ten o'clock at Messrs. Dawson and Sons, a local firm of builders. At ten o'clock between fifty and sixty strong men arrived at the place, and on inquiring for work they were told that it must have been a practical joke by someone, as they had not advertised for men, and had no work for them to do. Upon this the men demanded beer money and travelling expenses, some having tramped long distances in the cold and wet. This was refused, and disturbances ensued. The windows of the premises were completely smashed, and a considerable amount of damage done before the men dispersed.

THE CUSTODY OF CHILDREN.

In the Divorce Court on Tuesday, in the case of Valentine v. Valentine, an application was made on the part of the mother, the respondent in the suit instituted by the husband for dissolution of marriage, for the custody of her two youngest children during the pending of the petition.—Mr. E. Pollock said he had to ask his lordship, on the part of Mrs. Valentine, for the custody of her two youngest children. When the lady left her husband's house at Goodwood she took the two youngest children and a nurse named Fanny Pratt with her, but after some time that person, on the plea that Mrs. Valentine was addicted to intemperance, an assertion which Mrs. Valentine denied, took the children back to the residence of their father, where they now remained.—Dr. Tristram opposed the application for Captain Valentine. The children were now with their father at Goodwood, and there he thought they ought to remain. The parties had been married over 20 years, and there had been eight children, and it rested with the court to say whether sufficient grounds had been shown for depriving the husband of the care of the two youngest. He had the affidavit of Fanny Pratt, which stated that, on leaving Goodwood, Mrs. Valentine, the two children, and Pratt went to various places in Devonshire, and ultimately to Southsea. Here it was stated by Pratt that Mrs. Valentine so far gave way to intemperance that she thought it improper that the children should remain in her custody, and she, acting on that belief, took the children back to their father's residence. Pratt, in her affidavit, said Mrs. Valentine came home after last Goodwood races under the influence of drink, and directed her to put her (Mrs. Valentine's) things together, as she was going to leave her husband's house to go to another gentleman. These and other circumstances made Pratt believe that Mrs. Valentine was quite incompetent to have the custody of her children. He, the learned counsel, said he had also the affidavit of the family doctor residing at Chichester, which stated that Mrs. Valentine for the last three years had given way to an ungovernable temper, and further, that he had advised her to abstain from drink, otherwise she would bequeath her children to the care of the law. Under such circumstances he (Dr. Tristram) asked that the children should remain with the father.—Sir J. Hannen, acting on the affidavits submitted by Dr. Tristram, said he had come to the conclusion that the lady ought not to have the custody of the children. He gave no opinion on the merits of the case, but directed that the children should remain with the father; the mother was to have access to them, and the Registrar would arrange the manner in which such access should take place.

FATAL ENCOUNTER WITH A SLAVE DROW.—A telegram was received at the Admiralty on Monday, from Zanzibar, reporting that on the 3rd inst. Captain Charles J. Brownrigg, of her Majesty's ship *London*, in a steam pinnace, with ten men, ran alongside a dhow full of slaves, flying French colours, and that, after a fierce resistance by the Arab crew, Captain Brownrigg, John G. T. Aers, writer, Richard Henry Monkey, stoker, and Thomas Bishop, ordinary seaman, were killed. One man was severely and two were slightly wounded. The dhow escaped.

At a fair trade meeting held at Bristol on Tuesday, a letter was read from Sir Stafford Northcote, in which, acknowledging a resolution on fair trade, he says that, as he anticipates a full discussion of the question next session, he thinks it well to wait for that opportunity of entering into its merits.

From the results of the religious census taken at Nottingham, it appears that the Church of England accommodation is 17,138 persons, while that of all shades of Nonconformity amounts to 33,600. There are 136 places of worship. On Sunday last, the night being rainy, the numbers were 22,236 morning and evening at the Church of England, and 35,000 at the various places of Dissent. Deducting one-third for duplicate attendance, it is estimated that about 25,000 people went to Divine service out of a population of 128,000, or about one in seven of the inhabitants.

WHY BURN GAS?

CHAPPUIS' REFLECTORS

DIFFUSE DAYLIGHT

ASD

SUPERSEDE GAS IN DAYTIME.

FACTORY: 60, FLEET-STREET.

N.B.—PROSPECTUS SENT ON RECEIPT OF STAMPED ENVELOPE. ADDRESS IN DEPARTMENT.

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Spohr's cantata, "The Last Judgment," was performed at a special Advent service held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday evening. The accompaniments were rendered on the organ by Dr. Stainer, who played them exquisitely, but the performance naturally lost much in effect through the absence of Spohr's superb instrumentation.

COUNTERTOP

THE "BLACK CROOK" AT THE ALHAMBRA.

What "Cinderella," "Sinbad the Sailor," and "The Forty Thieves" have been to the present generation of English playgoers "La Biche au Bois" has been to the French of the same epoch. Since it was first produced in 1845 as a spectacle at the Porte-Saint-Martin it has seldom been during many consecutive years of the stage and the number of its representations must now be counted by hundreds if not by thousands. The special claim appears to consist rather in its pliability than in any more strictly dramatic quality. The fairy machinery differs little from that of "The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood" ("La Belle au Bois Dormant"), and the story has no special merit. A maiden of royal birth is condemned by a fairy godmother, whose pride has been hurt, to remain until womanhood excluded from the light of day. Careful ward is set upon her, and she lives until she is perfect in beauty and accomplishments, in a royal palace. Then, against the wishes of the benevolent fairies under whose protection she is, she is sent, in a carefully-guarded litter, proof against all intrusion of sunshine, to meet the prince who loves her. Adversary influences are at work; the litter is upset and broken, and the enchanted princess, so soon as the sun touches her, is turned into a milk white swan. In this disguise she hides herself in the forest. After a time she is hunted and wounded by her lover. In the end, however, constant affection wins her redemption, and she is duly married. Such are the merest outlines of a story that is told in French by Perrault and the Comtesse d'Aulnoy. Little enough there in this legend which has a less measure of human sympathy than "Cinderella," and some other stories from fairy-land. The wanderings of the Princess Desirée, however, furnish ample opportunity for the introduction of marvellous scenes and all homes in which fairies can be supposed to dwell, coral caves of the ocean, innermost depths of the forest and darkest recesses of the mine.

can appropriately be introduced. A novel story to give cohesion to any sets of scenes. Whenever accordingly, the piece has been remounted, in Paris or elsewhere, new scenes and ballets have been introduced, and in each case a fresh success has been secured. The title of the "Bibi-Crook," derived from the name bestowed upon the unfriendly fairy, was first assumed in America, and was retained when in December, 1872, version by Messrs. J. and H. Paulin was first given at the Alhambra. This name, associated with recollections of a distinguished success, is still retained. Not too easily intelligible is this story as it is now presented at the Alhambra. In the case of a piece which almost wholly operative and spectacular, this is a matter of comparatively little importance. The spoken words are not always intelligible in the case of stage so large as that of the Alhambra, and words which are sung are rarely so. A previous knowledge of the plot, accordingly, or a study of the synopsis affords in the play-bill, is almost imperative if it is sought to know what is being done. What is at once evident is that the most liberal of managements has outdone itself in expense as regards stage and scene, that the whole cleverly and well, and that Mr. F. Clay and Signor Jacchi have both supplied some very sparkling music. That fault, apparently inseparable from the first production of an Alhambra spectacle, of excessive length, is now, of course, been remedied, and the visitor to the theatre is no longer subject to the mortification of seeing the curtain descend not only before the play is over, but before the most brilliant and attractive scenes have been reached. The disappointment experienced on the first night was, of course, attributable in part to the difficulty of getting in working order the elaborate scenes which are introduced. A measure of the blame, may however, be thrown upon the friends of various artists who, in distinct opposition to the will of the majority of the house, insisted upon enacting the scenes, and so to themselves and the public out of chance of hearing the latter. So soon as one once accepts of these scenes are inevitable. The friends of Bibi may allow that that artist should apparently stand in public favour below A. who has been encoined. The entire range of the alphabet has then to be treated in a similar fashion.

Of the splendour of the decorations of the heave, and the smallness of the almost marginal effect of the electric light, falling upon the sky-blue colour of the dome, which it filled with a radiance misty and ineffable, I have already spoken. That of the scenes on the stage has also received a full tribute. I need only repeat that the Amazonian ballet introduces some of the most glittering and effective episodes ever seen, and that the Ballet of the Fairs is still more splendid and beautiful. The Cor-à-Pans are still, probably, for I have not seen it even richer in colour and scarcely, if at all, less imaginative. These processions are rich and elaborate, and their spectacle is as varied and as gorgeous as it can be.

Turning to the performance, historic and topical chorans. I will deal with the latter first, as in the case of a piece of this kind the more important. More than in the most places one can number have passed since a company so highly trained for the performance of ballets that now found at the Alhambra's own school in London. The general elements are well the ensembles capable, and the general movement is executed with precision. At the head of the troupe stand two dancers of highest rank, Madlle. Pall-dry and Madlle. Bertoldi, the one the most graceful and ideal dancer of a modern stage has seen, the other unrivalled in agility and elegance. A word of praise is deserved also to Messrs Percival, Richards, Pettit and Marie, who conduct what may be called the subaltern officers of the regiment.

Turning to the drama, the place of honour belongs to Miss Emile Petrelli, whose grace and refinement are seen to highest advantage as the Princess Desirée, as whose voice, though scarcely strong enough for so huge a hall, is delightfully fresh and musical. Miss Constante Loseby, as the fair Black Crook, sings with splendid energy and with high skill. Miss Koro Bonaparte and Miss Lizzie Coots make respectively their first appearances as Queen Orange Hue and Gabrielle, and obtain warm recognition, and Miss Julia Seeman, especially engaged, plays the swarthy African Aika in a most dramatic fashion, though thoroughly acceptable to the audience. Mr. Harry Paulton has a special chord in Dandelion, a heart-writer has furnished himself in Dandelion with part in which his special gifts are seen to advantage. His topical songs, drawn from his own life, for himself, his his well-known drollery and are constantly once more and his comic business with Miss Coots provokes roars of laughter. Mr. Ben Loner is a good vocal artist, a clever actor, and a gradually getting the familiar with English as at first lacked. Mr. H. Walsham Prince Jemmill, wants only a little more vivacity to be what he should be desired. Mr. W. Harries made successful first appearance in the character named Don, and Mr. J. Harris a new comic personage known as Buttercup showed off to advantage his remarkable physical gifts. The minor characters were fairly sustained. The entire representation has every element of popularity and some elements of excellence. In music and the pageantry, however, the real attraction of the "Black Crook" are found, and on the strength of these the revival seems likely to occupy a conspicuous place in Alhambra annals.

IMPERIAL.

Messrs. Melnyour St. John and R. Mountney Jephson. It is cumbersome as well as long, and has the appearance of being an adaptation of a novel. Be this as it may, it will need a good deal of compression before it is story proper, either interesting or wholly intelligible to the public. Not easy is it to see what purpose is served by the prologue, the action of which might be told in the first tableau. In this the character of the heroine is brought clearly before the public. A very moderate amount of ingenuity might, however, serve to assign this requisite prominence without the employment for the purpose of a long act. Two stories are welded together in the plot. By some mysterious influence whenever two members of the two ancient and fated families have ventured upon an amiable and innocent indiscretion a kiss under the mistletoe, the result has been fatal to the lady. This tradition extends back to the time of the Wars of the Roses. When, accordingly, Lady Maud Coverdale expects to be kissed by Sir John Lovel, she takes care it shall be done without the intervention or excuse of the shrub sacred to the Druids. Christmas time arrives and no mistletoe is brought to the rescue. A young Frenchman, however, mightily impressed with the beauty of English custom, hangs up a surreptitious spray and under this by ill chance Lady Maud stands to be kissed. As her disappearance follows immediately upon the kiss, there is every reason to believe that the old fate still hangs over the house. In fact, however, the disappearance is attributable to wholly natural, but sufficiently romantic circumstances. Within Lord Coverdale's house is a guest, a mysterious and beautiful young Irish woman, who is bent, like the heroine of *L'Aventuriere*, on capturing her host. Not at all a difficult task has Julia the lady in question. She has, however, been previously married to a rogue of the name of Lord Coverdale, whose death her heartlessness has brought about. This secret she carefully keeps from her venerable admirer. It is, however, known to Lady Maud who threatens her with exposure. To silence her enemy until the secret marriage which has been arranged has been carried out, Julia causes Lady Maud to be abducted and hidden in the lair of Jack Tapp, a species of smuggler and poacher with whom she is entangled into relations. To the carrying out of this scheme the disappearance of Lady Maud is attributable. All goes well for a while with our adventures. Before, however, her scheme is quite carried out, Lady Maud, whose retreat has been discovered, rescued by her lover, reappears, bringing in her train a full discovery. With the decision of Julia and the approaching captivities of Lady Maud and Sir John, the piece ends. Slight as is, this plot might serve, but for the extraneous material with which it is burdened. The author's inexperience in dramatic construction is obvious, his filled the play with business and aside, and the whole pede the action instead of aiding it, and the whole appears ponderous. A third must be cut out before a decisive opinion upon the chances of the play can

Mr. Martin L. Eiffe, formerly a member of the famous Saxo-Manningen Court Company, gave on Tuesday night last, at the Langham Hall, a recitation of "Hamlet," in the presence of an intellectual audience. Mr. Eiffe, whose performance at Sadler's Wells of the character of Shylock is still well remembered, gave from memory the greater portion of the first three acts of "Hamlet," and a considerable portion of the fifth act. The occasion was of high interest, and the performance, for so much practically it amounted was a remarkable success. Mr. Eiffe has a good presence, a musical voice, and, what is of more account, a high intelligence. He has obtained a mastery of our language, all but complete, and there is little except the manner in which the less significant words of sentence are sometimes slurred, to tell that he is not an Englishman. Taking the play of "Hamlet," then, Mr. Eiffe, who stands in the front of the audience, and uses neither book nor prompter, goes through all the important scenes in which Hamlet appears, speaking the whole of the speeches assigned to the various characters. In a task of this kind more precision than is common in the case of a recitation is employed. This, with changes of voice, enables the reader to assign each of the personages a distinct and recognisable individuality. When, as in the play scene, several characters are on the stage, the task of marking the difference often is a great difficulty. Over this Mr. Eiffe triumphs. A doubt as to who is speaking, if ever it rises in the mind, is soon dismissed. It is of course difficult to over-estimate the labour involved in committing to memory about two-thirds of "Hamlet." But the last thing that commends itself to the end of a recitation is the ability and intelligence of the whole performance. Scarcely a character is there that is so distinct as though the aid of dress was afforded, and the reading offered display great acumen. In the soliloquies of Hamlet, Mr. Eiffe was of course at his best. These have seldom been more effective in the case of a regular performance. Altogether excellent are, however, the characters of the Queen, Ophelia, Horatio, the Ghost, and many others. Shakespeare has been carefully studied, and the reader is enabled to estimate those which commend themselves most strongly to the student, as the whole entertainment is a marked and most creditable success. A special feature in it consisted in the musical illustrations. Herr Oetzer played on the harp in brilliant style his own "Lament and Death of Ophelia," and Miss Mary Carmichael, accompanied by Mrs. Julian Marshall, gave very creditably music selected from Beethoven, Wagner, and other musicians.

DORMONT.

STATE TRIAL IN ST. PETERSBURG.

The six men still remain on the Calf Rock Lighthouse and it is expected that some of the men must elapse before long if work can be made to get the men off.

An alarming outbreak of typhoid fever has occurred in several parts of Oldham, owing, it is believed, to impure milk or water.

It has been decided by the operative potter s of North Staffordshire, who have entered upon the fourth week of their strike, to offer their employers the option of arbitration.

THE THEATRICAL LIBEL CASE.

A FEDERATED EMPIRE.

A RUNAWAY ENGINE.

A DOG BITE.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice North, the action of Harrington v. Buckingham was tried. It was an action to recover damages for the bite of a dog.—The plaintiff, a young man of twenty, said that on the evening of the 8th February last, while he was walking down Royal Mint-street, Tottenham, when he saw a black retriever dog which he believed to be the defendant, a licensed victualler in the neighbourhood, attacking an old woman. He shouted "lie down Carlo," and immediately seized him by the throat and tore it. He suffered from the wound for six weeks, and had nervous symptoms since.—A policeman who was stable deposed to the animal coming over a hoarding and attacking him one night, and another policeman said that he pulled the dog off the woman's neck, when it flew at him, but he struck it in the chest, and it then ran away.—The old woman deposed that the dog was in the habit of playing with her.—Mrs. Kelly, a servant of the defendant, deposed that the dog was in the habit of playing with her.—His lordship held that there was no evidence that the defendant knew that the dog was ferocious.—Verdict for the defendant.

REINING THE CHANGES.—At the Surrey Sessions on Tuesday, James Brown, 50, shoemaker; Henry Thompson, 26, plasterer; and Henry Brown, 44, painter, were indicted for stealing a half-sovereign, the money of John Guenigault. The prisoners went into a public-house in Kennington and called for a pot of beer, tendering a half-sovereign in payment, and got receiving 9s. 9d. in change. After drinking the beer one of the prisoners turned round to the landlord and said, "Did I give you half a sovereign?" She said, "Yes." He said, "I did not mean to do that; give it me back." She did so, and he then took a threepence and gave her back the change. She afterwards found that the half-sovereign he gave her first was bad.—The jury found the prisoner guilty, and Detective George having proved several previous convictions, the Chairman sentenced James Brown to ten, and the other two prisoners to seven years' penal servitude.

tations were set on foot for contracting an alliance with King HUMBERT, who at that time was only too willing to entertain the proposal. To this astute move Prince BISMARCK at once replied by arranging for the meeting of the Czar and the KAISER at Dantzic, at which the Czar was apparently given clearly to understand not only that the proposed alliance would be useless against the alliance of Germany and Austria, but that his own interests would be better forwarded by keeping out of it. Thereupon Italy changed her tune. If Germany and Austria were about to take action in Eastern Europe, now would be the time to strike a bargain with them for obtaining an accession of territory as the price of her support. A meeting accordingly takes place between the KAISER and the Italian KING, and a sort of proposal is informally made. But neither Austria nor Germany entertain any superfluous respect for so versatile an ally, and both united feel a just confidence in being able to carry out their plans without any purchased assistance. Germany, accordingly, takes an opportunity of reminding King HUMBERT that the POPE is still a power in Italy.

President ARTHUR's message indicates rather than defines the policy he proposes to pursue during his term of office, and for the most part steers clear of committing him to any particular line of conduct. The principal exception to this is to be found in what he says with regard to the Panama Canal. The canal, he declares, is American only, and the proposals of Colombia to the European Powers to join in the guarantee of the canal he pronounces to be "in direct contravention of the American obligation as the sole guarantee of the integrity of the Colombian territory and of the canal itself." This claim, he says, was submitted to Europe by his predecessor, and it was notified that the interjection of any foreign guarantee might be regarded by America as a superfluous and unfriendly act. Foreseeing, however, that Great Britain would rely on the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty of 1850, as affording room for a share in the guarantees which the United States covenanted with Colombia four years before, the new President has proposed to the English Government a modification of that Treaty, and the abrogation of the clauses "which do not comport with the obligations of the United States towards Colombia, or with the vital needs of the two friendly parties to that compact." All this is far from reassuring. On the President's own showing, the stipulations of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty are opposed to the claim, and it is exceedingly difficult to discover any basis of right or reason on which it can be supposed to rest. The Canal will not be on territory belonging to the United States; it will not be constructed by American enterprise, nor, except very partially, by American capital. But the President calmly assumes the sole right of the United States to guarantee it, and announces that if the rights of other countries, or treaties with them, stand in the way, it will be simply so much the worse for the rights and treaties.

As to the great question of reform in the Civil Service, President ARTHUR rides off on a side-issue. "The same rules," he says, "should be applied which regulate private business appointments, and should be based on fitness for the tenure of the office, and punishment for misconduct." This is all very well, as is his praise of the English system, and his announcement that he will support any measure of Congress for the establishment of competitive tests; but it is altogether beside the great question of the reform initiated by Mr. HAYES, and the adoption of which by President GARFIELD was the declared reason for his assassination. What would it avail as checking the jobbery and corruption inseparable from the system of allotting to the victors in a political campaign the spoils of sixty thousand offices of all sorts and sizes, that the recipients were required to pass a competitive examination in order to demonstrate their fitness to share the plunder? The mournful circumstances under which Mr. ARTHUR became President naturally prevent any open declaration of opinion on this point, but so far as can be gathered from his message, he justifies the expectations of GUITEAU as to his "Stalwart" proclivities, and is far more inclined to follow the lead of CONKLING and GRANT than the nobler precedents set by HAYES and GARFIELD.

The alliance between Germany and Austria has no doubt largely assisted in maintaining the peace of Europe during the abdication by England of her natural and rightful functions in relation to European politics. But who is to keep guard over the guardians? There are signs in plenty that the factiousness and feebleness of those who denounced the Treaty of Berlin, are rapidly bringing the Eastern question in a new and most menacing form once more within the range of practical politics. The Austrian KAISER-KING goes to meet the Czar of all the Russias at Dantzic, and soon after welcomes the King of Italy and his ministers at Vienna, while Prince BISMARCK negotiates with the POPE as a hint to the Italian Government. What is the meaning of these movements? There is after all no great mystery in the matter. Several months ago the Russian Government was meditating the realisation of a part of her Pan Slavist policy which would necessarily arouse the hostility of Austria. In order to carry out the Russian plan, the assistance of Italy became under the circumstances of the case an absolute necessity, and nego-

There can be little doubt that what is at the present moment contemplated by the Austro-German alliance is a large aggrandisement of Austria at the expense of Turkey, accompanied probably by some acquisition of German territory by Germany from Austria. A sop to Russia and a sop to Italy may, perhaps, facilitate the carrying out of the policy, and as neither one nor the other, nor both united, can prevent its being carried out, both, in all probability, will be content to be bought off at no excessive price. And what is the position of England? Here is Turkey about to be dismembered. This is a contingency which Mr. GLADSTONE no doubt would contemplate with composure if not rejoicing, as realising, to a great extent, his great "bag-and-baggage" policy. But not only is Turkey about to be dismembered, but Austria is the power which will be mainly aggrandised by the dismemberment. How about the "hands off" policy in relation to Austria? These are no mere party taunts. We do not recollect these fanatic phrases for the sake of showing their folly or their wickedness. We simply employ them as epitomes of a declared policy towards two powers, and we ask what policy is it possible for their author to adopt in a dilemma in which it becomes absolutely impossible to carry out either without sacrificing the other? One fact is day by day, becoming clearer and clearer, that it is not the policy of Lord BEACONSFIELD alone which the Radicals have reversed, but the policy of England. If the Eastern question is re-opened, as in all probability it will be early in next year, the Liberal Government must inevitably collapse, and the country will insist on its traditional policy being resumed by statesmen who know what British interests are, and have the courage to uphold them.

Mr. Sendall will not, after all, be made Lieutenant-governor of Natal. Lord Kimberley has assented to the loudly-expressed wishes of the colony, and a Governor will be appointed instead of a Lieutenant-governor. There has been a great deal of nonsense let loose about this appointment and its subsequent revocation. In the first place, nobody doubted that Mr. Sendall was a man of integrity and capacity. The public did not know until he wrote his letter to Lord Kimberley that he entertained so high an opinion of his own qualifications, but they are willing enough to accept him at his own estimate, and to believe him the model person he says he is. This is not the question. The question is whether it was wise and expedient to send out a personage of secondary importance with a title of secondary rank to Natal at the present crisis, when the government of that colony urgently requires all the influence and authority that can possibly be given it. The inevitable answer is fatal to the appointment of Mr. Sendall, although it conveys not the least reflection or reproach on that gentleman's character in any capacity. The initial error was the not seeing that the circumstances of the colony demanded a man of more commanding influence to deal with them, and for this grave blunder Lord Kimberley and the Government are justly held responsible. But do not let us blow hot and cold. Now that the Government have admitted the error, and have found it expedient to remove the ground of complaint, do not let us fall foul of them for their vacillation and weakness. Having bungled the affair grossly, they have at least done rightly in endeavouring to redress their bungling. Let them send a strong man to Natal, and we shall be by no means disposed to grudge Mr. Sendall the next berth at the disposal of the Government which will give him a fair opportunity of showing what kind of stuff he is made of.

The remarks in President Arthur's message with regard to Protection are worthy of attention. After deploring the decline of the American merchant marine, he continues:—"Considering that we furnish so large a portion of the freight of the world, there must be a peculiar hindrance to the development of this interest, which might not have failed had it been protected as we have protected our manufactures. This is cold comfort alike for Free-traders and Protectionists. The former will regret the spread of what they regard as an economically damnable heresy in so highly advanced a community as that of the United States, while the latter will regret the portended introduction of an effective system of bounties which will place us at a greater disadvantage than ever with a country with which in this one point at least we have been able successfully to compete. The unquestioning manner in which it is assumed that protection has been distinctly beneficial to American manufacture is certainly calculated to convey a "nasty jar" to the philosophers of the Cobden Club.

"The most alarming feature," said Baron Fitzgerald in opening the assizes at Connaught, "in the condition of Ireland, is that in face of the determined efforts of redress which the Legislature has put forth, agrarian crime is increasing." Mr. Justice Fitzgerald also, in opening the Munster Assizes declared that "life continues to be insecure, or is rendered so miserable as to be worthless. Right is disregarded,

Mr. Edward Clarke in speaking at Rotherhithe the other night, reminded his audience of the resolution of which he gave notice last session, to the effect that bills which had passed a second reading in one session of Parliament, might be taken up in the next session at the same stage. This rule prevails in several legislative assemblies, and would in itself save a great deal of the time of the House. As it is, the massacre of the innocents is final. Even if the same bill is introduced in the next session, all the preliminaries have to be gone through again, and a sore waste of time is inevitable. A measure of the kind would perhaps not do much to prevent obstruction, but at all events it would go far towards rendering impossible the ultimate triumph of obstructive tactics, and so far would tend to discourage their employment.

The anonymous letter to an Aberdeen newspaper in reference to the theft of the body of Lord Crawford and Bulcarres seems to be genuine, and if so, points to a motive for the crime by no means so basely and sordidly criminal as the one hitherto universally surmised. According to the version of the robbery now given, it was the work of two young medical students anxious to discover the secrets of the Florentine method of embalming. For this purpose, they hired several men to assist them in removing the earl's body, intending, if the story is true, to replace it after making their examination. No doubt an offence of this kind is a very serious one under any circumstances, but the carrying off the body by brigand-blackguards for the sake of ransom, falls into a very different category of crime to its temporary abstraction by a couple of young hare-brained medical students for at least a quasi-scientific purpose. If this version be true, as we hope it may be, the next thing to be done is for one of the guilty parties to make a clean breast of it to a trusty elder, and to set arrangements on foot for the immediate return of the body.

The fearful disaster at Vienna only points the dismal moral that, although it is possible to take precautions against fire, it is impossible to take precautions against human nature. The Ring Theatre was built only seven years ago, with more complete arrangements in case of fire than had been thought necessary in some theatres more lately built nearer home. The means of egress were, if not adequate, at least more ample than in most theatres; there was an iron curtain ready to be let down at once to cut off the stage from the house; there was telegraphic communication between the theatre and the fire-engine stations. Yet, so far as the facts can be gathered, the conflagration was as widely fatal as it would have been without any of these precautions. Wherever means of egress existed there was a deadly crush, until all passage was choked by a mass of suffocated humanity; nobody seems to have remembered the existence of the iron curtain, and nobody had presence of mind to employ the telegraphic communication. This is very terrible, but it seems absolutely impossible to guard against contingencies of the kind. A panic cannot be argued with. Theatres, no doubt, can be and ought to be made safer than they are, but all that can be done is to minimise the danger. Danger there will always be, so long as theatres exist and the world flocks into them for amusement, though it may be hoped after so ghastly a lesson, that something may be learnt as to the best means of averting wholesale slaughter when a catastrophe occurs.

Mr. Bright, in his speech at Llandudno, showed that he is as incapable of learning anything or forgetting anything as the most Bourbonist of Bourbons. All the first part of his address was simply a warmed-up hash of his old utterances about the land laws in the days of the corn law agitation flavoured with a spice of later bunkum about education. The Irish failure, in fact, has soured the temper of the Government, from Lord Hartington at one end of the concatenation to Mr. Bright at the other, and an atrabilious tinge colours all the latest ministerial utterances. But the Birmingham statesman enunciated, at least, the proposition which probably none of his most energetic opponents will demur. "We now see," he said, "in Ireland what results ensue from erroneous legislation." The two-edged character of the remark seems to have struck the orator as he spoke, for he continued his period somewhat awkwardly. "We now see in Ireland what results ensue from erroneous legislation and the continuance of erroneous education through successive centuries with regard to land." The second thought was hardly so good as the first, but it may pass. We may admit that the legislation in Ireland with regard to land had been through successive centuries erroneous. We are quite ready not merely to admit, but emphatically to assert, that what we now see in Ireland is mainly due to Mr. Gladstone's continuance of erroneous legislation in his Land Acts of 1870 and 1881.

Such a darkness as that of the 9th of December
The oldest inhabitant doesn't remember.
There are some, had it been the 15th of November,
Would have thought we should never arrive at December.
Except through a universe burnt to an ember.

The Country Edition of "THE PEOPLE," for circulation only in Provincial Towns, remote from London, is published on Friday Morning. The Second Edition, issued on Saturday Morning, is intended for Sale within a radius of 200 miles. The Third Edition, published late on Saturday Afternoon, is specially adapted for Postal Circulation, and should reach Country Subscribers by the Sunday Morning Delivery. For London, a Special Edition is issued on Sunday Morning, containing all the Latest News up to the hour of going to Press. The Readers of "THE PEOPLE" can judge for themselves the particular Edition they should be supplied with, and are requested to be persistent in their demand for it. In the event of any difficulty in obtaining "THE PEOPLE," a communication addressed to the "Publisher" will receive prompt attention.

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Sir John Harpur Crewe, Bart., has returned his Staffordshire and Derbyshire tenants 10 per cent. on the past half-year's rent. This is the fifth time Sir John has made a similar concession.

POLITICAL ADDRESSES.

I am glad that Sir Evelyn Wood has consented to reconsider his intended departure from Natal; of course, he is the right man under the circumstances to undertake the Governorship, and I hope his mission means that he has received tidings to the effect that the office will be offered him.

Lord Henry Gordon-Lennox, M.P., speaking.

and lies in a hollow within one hundred yards from the house, and fifty yards from the road. The dragging began at half-past nine, and very soon the mother and eldest daughter were found. Half an hour afterwards the two youngest children were got out. The bodies were removed to the Junction Inn.

At the Eastern Borough Police-court on Tuesday, John Tobin, described as a labourer, 40 years of age, of Middlesbrough, was again brought up in connection with the recent discovery of arms in Bradford. The charge preferred was that of treason-felony. Mr. Pollard, solicitor to the Treasury, prosecuted, and Mr. Atkinson, of Bradford, defended. Mr. Pollard said that the case had caused the authorities in London the greatest anxiety, and they were of opinion that the best course to pursue was to lay the evidence before the Bench in order that they might say whether they would commit the prisoner for trial upon a charge of treason-felony, or whether they would deal with the case in another manner. In the opinion of the authorities, the offence was treason-felony or nothing. The charge against the prisoner would be of being in possession of firearms for the purpose of carrying out treasonable practices, and it would be laid under the 11th and 12th Victoria, chapter 12, which was enacted for the purpose of dealing with cases which were not considered to be so important as the offence of high treason. The prisoner had been, beyond all doubt, as shown by the correspondence, in and out of possession, connected with the Fenian movement, from the year 1871. In 1875, from a book which he should lay before them, it was ascertained that he was connected with some persons, at present unknown, belonging to a respectable society of the name of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. From that time to the present he had been living in Bradford. In the early part of this year, information was received by the chief constable which caused him to make active inquiries as to persons who were supposed to belong to some treasonable society in the town. The movements of the prisoner were watched day by day, and it appeared that he was in the habit of going almost nightly to a place of meeting in 11, Beamsley-street. The prisoner at that time occupied a house—23, Beamsley-street—and lived there with his wife and child. He was engaged in a stone-quarry during the day as a labourer, and his occupation would leave him a good deal of leisure, especially at night, his work ceasing during the summer months about six o'clock in the afternoon, and in the winter about four o'clock, whilst during the rest of the year he was in the habit of being at his disposal. He would, therefore, be a proper person for travelling about carrying orders, and for promulgating the doctrines of the society. The Bench would hear from witnesses that he was nightly in the habit of going to the place of meeting in 11, Beamsley-street, Manningham. The ground floor of this house was occupied by a man named Patrick Riley, who ostensibly carried on business as a greengrocer. He did not live on the premises, but in a house in Silk-street, Manningham. In the upper part of the house was the room in which the meetings were held. The magistrates would hear from the police that they were in the habit of watching the place to ascertain who attended, and to learn what was carried on in the room. On these occasions Riley was usually at the door waiting, and as soon as the officers made their appearance gave a signal. All loud discussions at once ceased, and he went on until July last, when an assault upon the police in which the prisoner was mixed up occurred in the neighbourhood. Tobin was not seen from that time, and no more was heard of him for some time. In the meantime inquiries were still being made with reference to the society to which he was alleged to belong. Such information was received that there were arms concealed in the house where the prisoner's wife lived. In consequence of the information a watch was kept, and upon the night of Sunday, Nov. 12, the police entered the place where the prisoner's wife was living, 43, Silk-street. He should mention that after Tobin had left Bradford, his wife removed from Beamsley-street and went to lodge with a Miss Reynolds. A man named Clark assisted in the removal, and would tell the Bench that there was one box to which his attention was particularly directed, because it was too large to be accommodated in Miss Reynolds's house, and the man named Clark took it to his lodgings for a time. It remained there for three or four days, and then Mr. Clark took it to the house at 43, Silk-street, getting Clark to take the box to the latter address. It was at that time when the police effected an entry on November 12, and found it locked, but on asking for the keys, Mr. Tobin produced them. On being opened two carpet-bags were seen, both of which were locked with padlocks. These were unfastened with keys on the bunch handed to the police by Mrs. Tobin, and in both a number of revolvers were found. In the bottom of the box there was a number of cartridges, the letters to which had already called attention, and which would show the prisoner's connection with the secret society, and the books containing notes of the number of men belonging to the organization in the district in October, 1875, and rather important that the magistrates should be made acquainted with the number of persons connected with the society, and this information was supplied in an intelligible form on a duplicate copy of the entries which had apparently been made with a view to transmission to the Home Office. The duplicate was made in two columns, with the headings No. Men, Article &c. Under the first it appeared that there were eight divisions in the district, and in No. 1 district a paper stated that there were 25 men, 32 articles, and 435 li. 3d. With reference to the other divisions, there were entries of a similar character, and the columns were summed up at the bottom, and marked "Bradford total." The result of the Bradford total was 113 men, 206 articles, and 4181 li. 8s. representing, he presumed, the amount of money subscribed. In the Halifax district there were 84 men, 39 articles, and 111 li. 10s. In Keighley, 30 men, 12 articles, and 430; in Shipley, 10 men, 12 articles, and 430; in Brighouse, 50 men, 12 articles, and 263 li. 5d.; the total for the entire district being men, 279 articles, and 4305 li. 5d. When the arms were found, the chief constable was forced to take possession of them all. Inquiries were made for Tobin, and as a result of the letters found in his possession, and the opinion of the police that they would find their man at Middlesbrough. He was subsequently discovered working in that town, at some steel works under the assumed name of John Moore. He was arrested and made a communication to the officer as he was conveyed to prison. The prisoner also made a voluntary statement when brought to Bradford to the officers, whose charge he was. He (Mr. Pollard) proposed to prove the facts as he had stated, and he would then leave their worship, if they thought there was sufficient evidence against the prisoner, either to send him for trial upon the charge of treason-felony, or for conspiracy with others, whose names were unknown to commit the offence of treason-felony under the 11th and 12th Victoria, to deal with him as in their discretion they thought proper. Mr. Atkinson observed that it had taken the authorities in London three weeks to get up their case, and he was only just that he should have time to prepare his defence. He therefore asked for a remand.—After discussion, the Bench remanded the prisoner.

On Tuesday morning, Henry Battye, landlord of the Junction Inn, Fulseote, near Shipley, Huddersfield, was dressing to go out, when he said to Hannah, Moorehouse, his daughter, aged 27, who was born before his marriage with his present wife, that he thought she was about to become a mother. This Hannah denied. The woman had three children—Ada, Emma, and John, aged ten, six, and one year and eight months—by a different father, the first and the last paying 2s. a week each for the support of their progeny. The father of the second had died. When Mr. Battye heard her denial he disbelieved it, and said he could not do with any more of her children, then adding, "Thou must seek a fresh shop." His daughter asked if on leaving him he might take a small box which she represented had been left her by her brother John, twenty-two years of age, who was killed on the railway at Shipley Station two years ago, but the request was refused. She added that her brother gave her the box at H. J. Feast, just before the accident, but the father replied that John Battye never said so to him, and the box must remain. On Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock, the father left the inn and walked to Shipley Station, a mile and a-half off, where he caught the train at 1.30 for Huddersfield. Mrs. Battye and Hannah, with the three children, were left at home, and at five o'clock, when Ada returned from school at Shipley, they had tea together. The father returned from Huddersfield by the quarter to five train, reaching home at about six. Hannah was not to be seen, but a note in the habit of visiting a neighbor with her child on, no great surprise was caused for a while. At last inquiry was made, and soon after Henry Battye, eight years of age, brother of Hannah, came in and said, "M.ther, our Hannah has gone into the dam with Ada." A lad who did jobs at the place was then questioned, and said that Hannah went out of the house to the cowshed and asked him to hold the handle while another boy milked the cows. She then asked Henry to go with her, saying that she was to cover the field to the pond. She had the infant with her, and Henry held it until she got over two fence walls. When Hannah came to the pond she said to Henry, "Ada and Emma have gone in there, and we've going," adding, "Thu can now go home and tell thy father and mother, so that they may know where we all are." He went back, and when he had delivered the message a party of men immediately commenced searching with grappling hooks, which they obtained from the engine-house of a coal-pit, adjoining the pond. As the dam was a small one, the men were not long in finding it, while Mrs. Battye went upstairs at the inn and found in Hannah's bed a quantity of blood, evidently placed there to lay out herself as a martyr. It was also ascertained that the dam was a small one, and the boys had seen Hannah, with the two oldest children in her arms, near the pond, and had asked her where she was going, but received no reply. The dam is ten feet deep and lies in a hollow within one hundred yards from the boggy, at half-past nine, and very soon the mother and oldest daughter were found. Half an hour after the bodies were removed to the Junction Inn.

tinuipos correspondent of the *Morning Post* points out with regard to Mr. Bourke's labours for the benefit of bondholders that he has secured for them nearly a million and a half of revenue, and has provided an administrative council invested with complete control over the taxed revenue. These results are regarded in Constantinople as simply astonishing, and as far surpassing anything which these conversant with Turkish finance could have expected.

The Marquis of Lorne will, it is understood, leave England by the Allan Line Royal Mail steamer *Parisian* on the 11th January to resume his official duties as Governor-General of Canada. The Princess Louise will, it is expected, join the Marquis in Canada later in the spring.

At Edinburgh, on Tuesday, Lord Young sentenced a man named John Wilton to five years' penal servitude for passing counterfeit money as a lady, and a man named John White was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude with five years' subsequent police supervision, for a similar offence. The same sentence as last mentioned was passed on a man named James Tierney, who was charged with passing counterfeit money as a lady, and retaining nearly 25% from a quarman while in a lodging-house stall. The others received lighter sentences, but one was sentenced five years' penal servitude.

Fourth. On December 8th, the Amer was
the time, &c., withhold not troops at this
need, &c. Send to Afghan Turkestan the
troops of Tashkend which General Stolin
me in your presence were ready, and would
patched whenever I required them. I allo
urge both day and night the Russian Govern
Then we see how the train was laid all

establish a new factory.

Earl Cranville has written to the secretary of the Oldham Master Cotton Spinners' Association, promising that the representatives of the association, by that body as the Spanish tariff on cotton goods, shall have attention if negotiations are opened between England and Spain.

A meeting of the governors of the Birmingham Eye Hospital was held on Tuesday, when it was resolved to build a new institution in New Edm. street., at a probable cost of £17,000. With regard to the present building, the chairman said it was originally an hotel, the dispensary was a bar, and it was on record that the house surgeon's room was once occupied by the Queen when she passed through Birmingham as Princess Victoria.

should grow among the shrubs, the old white and red flowers of the *Androsace* that one used to meet with thirty years ago in our gardens, is one of the most beautiful objects, and, as a mass, rising up among shrubs, the newer *Androsace*, does well planted out with a mulching of mould in winter. There are many choice kinds of Californian lilies which may be added from time to time, as we seem to want a new feature. But in a small article we cannot do more than glance

SUICIDE THROUGH DRINK.—An inquest was held at Williston on Monday evening respecting the death of George Stamford Ross, who was found dead in bed on Friday. The evidence showed that lately the deceased had given way to intemperance, which had affected his mind. On Monday last he turned his wife and nephew out of doors, saying he was afraid if they remained he would do them injury. The next day he asked a constable to take his intoxicated nephew because he was afraid he would kill himself, and the same evening he purchased six pennyworth of vermin powder. Nothing more was seen or heard of him for three days; the neighbours then broke into the house and found him dead in bed. Beside him lay an empty glass and the paper which contained the poison. There was also a note addressed to his wife, in which he instructed her to secure his insurance money. Verdict, "Suicide whilst of unsound mind."

We are beginning to shiver again. No frost as yet, or only in the very early mornings; but a threatening chill is in the wind, and the great wood-yards, where the billets of firewood, oak, ash, elm, and beech are piled in symmetrical pyramids or built into rampsarts overtopping the walls, have been sending out, in all directions, waggons laden with the winter store of many a household. The cheery log fire crackles merrily on the hearth in the early twilight, when visitors gather on "reception days," in luxurious salons where, to the clink of tea-cups and the rustle of silk, the "ball is kept rolling" as a Parisian coterie knows how. The jokes may be small—but anyway they have points, however minute; the "news" may be very lightly underbuilt with, fact—but it stands in good stead of more solid material, and, from time to time a group of talkers in a corner will carry on a discussion of more serious sort, broken off perhaps, half-an-hour ago, at club, or café, when the idea suddenly occurred that Mesdames X. and Y.'s reception were not to be overlooked or forgotten, if one desired to stand well with one's world—particularly now, when the new "at home" toilettes are in all their fresh "mirobalance," and surely it is worth while turning in if only to look at the lady in her "morning robe" of white plush with chinchilla bordering and priceless natural flowers, nestling among the rich creamy lace and glistening satin ribbons of her "cravate."

Now that nearly the last stragglers have come in from their chateaux to occupy the great houses whose shutters have been opening gradually one by one—the season of charity balls is commencing. Last week two brilliant affairs of the kind were going on at the same time—one at the Grand Hotel, for the benefit of the accountant clerks of the department, for which the floral decorations were furnished gratuitously by the town; the other at the Continental, in aid of the funds of a provident society for the benefit of the shopwomen of Paris. The usual ball-room at the Continental was too small for the occasion, and was supplemented by the great dining hall transformed for the occasion, and communicating with the other room by a magnificent conservatory, full of bright flowers and luxuriant tropical leafage, all glorified in the wondrous whiteness of the electric lamps. The dance was at its height when I saw the last of it, soon after midnight. But the costumes—who am I that I should describe them? I saw only a revolving vision of satin, feathers, flowers, and creamy lace, lighted up by the glitter of gold, and the cool sharp twinkle of diamonds.

Political Paris has been busy, this week past, with the memorable Tunisian debate, and with incidents and anecdotes arising therefrom. It was a debate to remember—the unprecedented clearance of the lobbies at the moment of the opening of the Chamber, when all the world surged in, the deputies hurrying to their respective benches, the rush of reporters, and the curious public in general, to the spaces allotted them, the interest and vivacity of the serrated mass of Parisian and provincial humanity. You are painfully aware of being "in a crowd" when your neighbour raises himself on tiptoe merely to get room enough to shrug his shoulders, and thinks it necessary to clench and brandish his fists every time he growls out "imbecile" or "rascal." Several little discussions also arose—sub-debates, as it were—between those who, far as the poles asunder in opinion, found themselves uncomfortably cheek-by-jowl, and had to be appeased by some third party neutrally disposed. On the whole, the "world" seemed well pleased, when, after the brilliant encounter of oratory between M. Pelletan and M. Gambetta, the so long threatened "Interpellation" ended with a vote of extraordinary Supply, carried by a large majority.

Strange, that after three months of universal imprecations upon the Tunisian business, all the outcry should end, not in smoke, but in a subscription for the benefit of the accused. One flippant commentator declares that it resembles one of those "scenes of conjugal life" in which madame having presented her milliner's bill, monsieur begins by threatening to throw the bill, the milliner, and madame herself out of window, and ends by peaceably paying the whole amount.

Mustapha Pasha, against whom M. Pelletan, in his speech, launched several witticisms, amusing if somewhat ponderous, was sitting throughout the whole debate in the diplomatic tribune. He did not appear to catch the meaning of the orator's allusions. Happy Mustapha.

He has been, by the way, an object of a good deal of mild curiosity since his arrival in Paris. People are fond of telling you of his habits and customs, as if he were some rare bird. He sleeps, it appears enormously, goes perseveringly to the theatre, where also he slumbers, returns home to sleep, and wakes to eat and sleep again. Perhaps he was asleep while M. Pelletan was firing off his heavy artillery.

The first step taken by the new minister of the Fine Arts Department, has been raising a storm of criticism. For some years past the pupils of the Government School of Art have had the advantage of studying painting in studios opened for their benefit under the same roof, in the Fine Arts School in the Rue Bonaparte. Complaints have been frequent of late, with regard to the disordered conduct of the young men frequenting these painting studios, which had become, in fact, a serious obstacle to the good government of the schools. M. Froust has, without further preamble, and grumble the critics, "with a stroke of the pen," suppressed these studios. Bitter are the utterances now, that while a student of sculpture after going through his course of study, is turned out in a position to exercise his art—would-be painter must henceforth seek in other studios the knowledge of his profession. Those who defend the minister, declare that the closing of the Government studios will be in fact a gain rather than a loss to art, since it will tend to encourage the opening of a greater number of private studios by painters of note, and that so, the field of artistic instruction will be widened. Who is right in this respect time must show. Meanwhile, the thing is done.

The Grand Opera is rejoicing in an especially fine cast of "Don Juan," which was produced last week for the first time for a long while. Lassalle's interpretation of the Don himself is very fine in his own style, a rattling rough overbearing Don, carrying all before him by sheer force of will and personality, the courtly personage, the *grand seigneur* whom Faure presents to us in that part. But as to singing, it is hard to say that anyone can excel Lassalle in these days. A young artiste, Larabie by name, made a hit on Friday night in the part of Zeretta. He had taken it on in an instant's notice on account of the sudden illness of the original

possessor of the part, and was so enthusiastically applauded that next day it was announced he would continue to play Masetto till further orders.

The other evening there was a great gathering of Poles in the great hall of the Grand Orient to celebrate the 51st anniversary of 1830. Patriotic speeches were made by gentlemen rejoicing in the names of Milkowski and Plucinski—and the chairman was M. Mazurkiewicz. The evening, however, did not finish with the national dance, but with a musical entertainment, remarkable chiefly for the magnificent singing of Mlle. Micheline Paveria, a pupil of Novelli at the Academy. She has a grand soprano, and her singing of Gounod's "Sapho," Faure's "Sancta Maria," and the great air from Gounod's "Reine de Saba" made a veritable sensation.

A goodly crop of small placards has broken out on every blank wall in Paris within the last week, so that he who runs may read, in large letters, that Jules Simon is now editor of the *Gaulois*, or, as the first page of the newspaper has it, "political director"—rice M. Robert Mitchell, who has resigned. And literally, "by the way," blank walls and wide spaces of hoarding abound in every street just now. The mania for house building, and for every species of demolition and reconstruction, rages in Paris to an extent of which no one has known the like. If all goes well, within a very few years there will not exist a single unoccupied spot in the first twelve arrondissements where a house could stand. Every bit of waste ground is turned into a builder's yard, and in every street of Paris proper, old houses are being pulled down, and regular streets of tenements resembling each other will before long, we fear, replace the varied aspect of house-roofs and window-ledges which have always been a specially amusing characteristic of the street views of Paris.

That "wandering star" of the drama, Sarah Bernhardt, seems to be having rather an exciting time of it in Odessa, where, if one may believe the story, the ingenious artist threw her stage jewellery glittering among the greedy enemies of Israel who mobbed her, and while they scrambled and fought for it, escaped, half fainting, into the house. "Did they think I was really casting my pearls before swine?" jeered the wily daughter of Abraham—so we are told, at least. But in this wicked city, where, to say the truth, people were nearly forgetting all about the Bernhardt, there are not wanting those who say, that this romantic history is another of the great artist's "creations," invented for the purpose of quickening the memory of her Parisian public against the time when she may find it convenient to appear again before them.

On Monday, at the Edmonton Petty Sessions, Mr

On Monday, at the Edmonton Petty Sessions, Mr. Morton Smith, barrister, made an application on behalf of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, with reference to an occurrence at the Alexandra Palace on the 15th of November. He said he applied under the 2nd section of the Cruelty to Animals' Act, in connection with some cruelty committed on that day at the establishment he had named. He presumed their worship had seen advertisements in the public newspapers, and by other modes, announcing the hunting of animals at the Alexandra Palace, including what were designated fox hunts. He wished the magistrates to understand that the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals always avoided interference with legitimate sport, but his case was that the matter of which the Society now complained was no sport at all. It was a thing reduced down to the chasing of a poor brute in a confined space, where neither vigilance nor skill on the part of the animal told to its advantage, the exhibition being simply kept up for the amusement of people who paid their shillings for admission. It was scarcely necessary for him to say that such affairs must be stopped. Complaints having been made to the Society of what was going on at the Palace in reference to the so-called fox hunting, an officer went there on the 15th of November and witnessed what was now described as an "experiment." The chief feature of the "experiment," which had been in the possession of the Palace Company for about three months, "The animal was let out for the purpose of being hunted by a pack of hounds, the hunting party comprising three gentlemen and one lady. The poor animal had no chance whatever of escape. The dogs soon reached it, and seized it by the haunches, pulled it down, and proceeded to do a very serious injury. Fortunately the huntsmen rode up, and the dogs were whipped off. Then it was seen that the animal was suffering considerable pain, and amongst other injuries a wound as deep as a man's finger was discovered. The animal, having been rescued from the hounds was tied to some railings in the ground and left there. Remonstrances were made to Messrs. Jones and Barber, the lessees of the Palace, who at once admitted that what had taken place was an act of cruelty, and promised that the thing should not recur again. Still the Royal Society felt bound to take the matter up. There had been very strong comments upon it in various directions, and the Society considered that they should be neglecting their duty to the public if they did not bring the affair to the notice of the justice. The following letter, however, had been received from the lessees of the Palace:—"Alexandra Palace, London, N., Nov. 16, 1881. Sir,—In reference to our Mr. Barber's call on

you to-day we beg to reiterate that the star hunt of the other day was simply an experiment, and that believing with you, that it will be impossible to carry it out without doing cruelty that we should be the last to wish to permit. We have arranged to give up all idea of any hunting other than drag hunting.—Yours faithfully, JONES and BARNES.—*M. Abbot:* What is meant by "drag hunting"? Mr. Smith: Laying a scent for dogs to follow non-animal but actually hunted. The Society do not object to drag hunting, but their cannot countenance anything like a repetition of the experiment I have described. I, after the letter I have read, the Bench think the ends of justice will be met by Messrs. Jones and Barker, both of whom I understand are now present, entering into an undertaking that such a thing shall not occur again. Sec. ety will be perfectly satisfied with this; they acted in the matter; but when in offence against the Cruelty Act has been committed, they do not feel themselves obliged to resist it over behind the back of the magistrate.

—Mr. Adams: The Bench understand the position of things to be this: The Society think that cruelty to animals is wrong, and the proprietors of the Palace think it, and are willing to enter into an undertaking not to repeat the act. —Mr. Jones said his partner and himself were quite willing to enter into an undertaking. They did not think the staz hunt could be carried out without causing cruelty, and they were prepared to stop it. —Mr. Dore: Fox-hunting as well? —Mr. Jones: We stoppage that as soon as our attention was called to it, and as to the staz, I think it is the most cruel of the measures. I think all other stazs hunted have it. It could have occurred from the Palace grounds if it had run. —Mr. Smith said perhaps he had better take a summons against Messrs. Jones and Barber, that they might enter into their own recognisances in a formal way. —The Bench thought, after the reading of the letter, and Mr. Jones's assurance that the thing should not be repeated, a summons was unnecessary. —The Bench then adjourned till the next day, and the worshippers of their worship. —Surgeon-General Tulketh, of the Society, was in attendance to give evidence.

On Monday evening there was a partial eclipse of the moon visible in this country. The earth's shadow first came into contact with the moon at 3.33 p.m., and left at 6.49 p.m.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The first stage in this great work is now nearly completed; the surveys and explorations have collected most of the information required, and the actual excavation will soon be begun. When the first working party arrived at Panama, they found themselves in a country covered with dense tangled forests, through which it was impossible to travel. The tops of the hills whose height they wished to take could not be seen for the trees, some of them of gigantic size. However, the explorers had one point of vantage—the railway, which already ran across the Isthmus. There they set to work, and took the levels of the lines accurately. Parties of workmen were next sent out from it to right and left, from different points, to cut paths through the woods to the tops of the hills, and the bottoms of the valleys. In this way the engineers managed to map out the country, and as soon as this was done, and the course of the canal decided on, a long path (or, as it is called, *trocha*) was cut along the line.

The next work was to find out of what that country was made—the composition of the soil through which the Canal was to be cut, where and how much rock was to be expected, and of what nature. For this purpose soundings were taken at various places along the line of the Canal and deep shafts sunk until the rock was reached and examined. The result showed on the whole that there was more clay and softer rock than had been expected; so that the work will be less difficult and expensive than was calculated upon.

The Canal will pass through a range of hills called the Col de Culebra, and here an immense cutting will be made, six miles long, and at one point 500 feet deep. Fortunately, a great quantity of the mass to be removed is clay, not rock. On the Atlantic side of these hills, the Canal meets with the River Chagres, and for the rest of its course will borrow its bed. But as the river is fed by mountain streams, it is liable to be flooded; and to prevent any danger from this source, an artificial lake is to be constructed to hold the superfluous water, and discharge it harmlessly by a separate channel. It is to have a surface of 444,960 square yards, and to be 130 feet deep. The Col de Culebra is to be brought to build up this immense reservoir; for eight pairs of rails are being laid down to carry the earth and stone which is excavated in making the cutting to Gambin, where the great dam is to be built.

The labourers are chiefly negroes from the neighbouring West India Islands. They can bear the climate better than any others, and appear to do their work satisfactorily, not only as common labourers, but as skilled artisans.

On Wednesday last an address upon "Organisation"

was delivered by Mr. Radcliffe Cooke, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. Mr. Cooke said: Political organisation was of two kinds, electoral and educational. Electoral organisation had one object only, of a two-fold character, namely, to put people on or take them off the register of voters, and to poll them at an election, and was more or less a mechanical process. Educational organisation had for its object the providing of effective means of bringing to the minds of voters, existing facts, positive and negative, knowledge of real political conditions, and of the doctrines taught by, and the principles upheld by, a particular party or group of men in the State. Electoral organisation depended for its efficiency upon sub-division of work into districts. There were many modern schemes which differed in detail, but this was the essential principle of each, and it might be truly said of them, "Whatever is best administered is best." They had heard much of the Radical system entitled the caucus. The faults of this system had been often and with justice exposed, nevertheless its success had given one valuable hint to Conservative organisers. The caucus was speciously alleged by its advocates to be based on the principle of representation, and theoretically the Radical hundreds were chosen by popular election, but as such elections were altogether outside the law, there was in practice no guarantee that they would be fairly conducted. The consequence was that the system in the hands of unscrupulous men led to the constitutencies being handed over to the entire control of a few professional wire-pullers and office-seekers, who sought in politics an avenue to notoriety, power, and sometimes wealth. This notion, however, of interesting large numbers of voters in the management of their own political affairs was good, and Conservative organisers had profited by it. Mr. Cooke then proceeded to deal with the formation of clubs and associations, and strongly advised his hearers not to be deterred from establishing such institutions in the Radical stronghold is from the fear of exposing their own weakness or inducing their adversaries to retaliate upon them with crushing effect. His experience was that you never could tell what your real strength lay among the working classes until you gave them facilities for meeting. Upon the subject of educational organisation, Mr. Cooke dwelt at some length upon the value of the Press, and especially the provincial press of the United Kingdom. He showed by statistics that the Conservative party were not only represented in that press, and strongly urged the members of the Constitutional Union in their respective spheres of influence to endeavour to improve and utilise the local press. It was not at all necessary or desirable that they should endeavour to force or incite their own political views through the medium of newspapers, whose proprietors found it advantageous to maintain an attitude of neutrality towards both parties, but the columns of all newspapers were open to intelligence respecting the movements of political bodies, and that they could always circulate, and be read, in the presence of what work was being done. Lecturers were of course the most of the members in this way until the sub-divided the more important subjects, so that when applications were made to the Society for lecturers upon a particular subject, their first thought should be not when can we get to go, but, which of those who have made the subject their study will be at liberty? It should also be the aim of members of the Constitutional Union, especially those who resided in the country or in provincial towns, to invite the men of intelligence and education, without distinction of class, in their neighbourhood, to study the political history of their country, and to inform themselves upon some one or more of the political questions of the time, so that they supply might be created in the persons of the men of the country, upon which questions when the occasion arose, either on the platform, or in the press, and to expose the misrepresentations of their opponents. In conclusion, Mr. Cooke advocated the claims in support of the Constitutional Union, which was intended to induce intelligent and educated men to take a more active part in the advancement of Constitutional principles than hitherto.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORSHIP OF NATAL.—The Earl of Kimberley, writing to Mr. Sandall, to whom he had offered the Lieutenant-governorship of Natal, says:—"I have come to the conclusion that it will be for the advantage of the public service that the wish of the Colonial Legislature for the appointment of a Governor instead of a Lieutenant-governor should be complied with, and that your appointment as Lieutenant-governor should therefore not be proceeded with." It is generally believed that the Government will accede to the wish of the Natal colonists and appoint Sir Evelyn Wood to the post of Governor, vacant by the withdrawal of Mr. Sandall. In any case, Sir Evelyn Wood comes to England in January for a short leave of absence.

The Earl of Do by has consented to become a patron of the Early Closing Association.

17th. — The cavalcade has started, and I am alone again

17th.—The cavalcade has started, and I am alone again with my glory—going to take it easy and going to mend my traps this morning. About eleven, started off to try and bag antelope (work on their curiosity); rode about four miles and left my horse in hollow and walked up a round hill; saw one lot and tried my flag, but, like Mary's lamb, they turned round and went the other way. From the next mound I could see three lots—two small bands and a solitary buck lying down about a mile off, made up my mind to stalk him; he was in a big open hollow, about eighty yards from a low slope, with sage brush along it. I marked as well as I could where to strike the sage brush, had to make a detour because of the wind, no on my knees, then worm fashion I crawled to the brow and peeped through—no antelope. I raised myself cautiously to my knees and looked to my right, then to my left, and there he was, about 120 yards off, staring right at me. I slowly raised my rifle, the ball went through his neck, and he never got on to his feet. I did not have "back ache," my rifle seemed no steeper than I ever held it before. It's a sixteen-shooter repeating Kennedy, "twenty-eight" barrel. I went and got my horse, but the antelope was too heavy for me. After I had lightened him considerably he was still too heavy, and I had to skin and quarter him. I also kept his head. I've cut off a lot of him to make "crisps," sun-dried chips. Had a fine supper, slap-jacks (his hough fired in grease) and antelope steak.

In the evening took my rod and strolled up to where I had seen some good fish rising. About the third cast I hooked one that took me till dusk to land, he weighed exactly one box of fifty long forty-four calibre cartridges. There's a big thunderstorm fooling round. I ground coffee in a piece of sack-kia with a hatchet, mixed bread in the mouth of my beast of prey for rain, and made all ready to give any beast of prey after antelope meat a big reception. Jaw ache and stiff knees this morning—but what a storm last night! When I retired to mother earth and blankets, there was a dead calm, no sound but the distant, even-approaching boom of thunder, theinky sky was lit with continuous lightning, now the timber on the other side of the Snake began to whisper, then to sigh and sob, then came the rain!

Canyons to right of me,
Canyons to left of me
Canyons in front of me,
Yolled and thundered.

The wind whistled and screamed through the cabin, and the crashing thunder shook the very earth. The storm was soon past, but I was denying the advantages of this would break me up, and I want to live to get home next spring, and not be a wreck either. The explorers had lots of bedding, so I hope they fared moderately. I was just dropping off to sleep when I heard a sound that made my heart jump clean into my throat. My horse screamed and plunged and then began snorting. I jumped into my boots, put my Colt into my belt, snatched up my rifle, cocked it, and went out. It was very dark. I went to my horse, and found him as much scared, he'd not broken his stirrups. I could not see anything—moved the horse close to the cabin and put the antelope meat in the empty wagon outside the cabin door, as I don't fancy there is room in the cabin for me and a grizzly. I slept with my ears like a cat's ears, but heard no more. Horses are the most reliable watchdogs a man can have, but he must be a light sleeper.

Rain and thunder on and off all day. Sketched antelope's head, read translation of Dante I've got with me and mended clothes. Seven o'clock, and explorers not back, baked some bread for them if they come, and stewed antelope.

Thunder all night and dull to-day. Before breakfast heard some horses, thought, of course, it was explorer returned, but no—two hunters who had struck the trail to Henry's Lake, and had ridden back along it as far as here exploring. One asked me for my antelope's horns as he had not been able to get such a good fine pair. Of course I gave them. No use to me.

In the morning feed and re-arranged rows on fishing red. About eleven o'clock put a small scarlet fly, the weather was dull, and I fished up to the old spot. About three third of the fish. Caught one about one and a half pound, then one about one pound, which I threw back, then hooked a good one, which took me quite half an-hour to land, and led me to dance about the bank; I trebled one box and sixteen cartridges; very difficult to land these fish with no net or gaff. They have splendid red flesh, just like salmon, which, perhaps, the are a grey colour, dark speckled, red about head. In the evening went down stream a short way; the water was covered with duns, and a lot of big fish feeding. The noise they made sounded like hogs eating wash; most were out of my reach, but I caught three or four good ones feeding under the banks, most of them, however, didn't care about the scarlet fly, when there was heaps of other feed; hated again for explorers, who again didn't turn up. If they don't come to-morrow they must be lost.

20th. Morning fine. Rode out to see the country north. Took a long shot at antelope, sighted 500 yards, and knocked the head off a prairie hen—nothing much to see. Afternoon: caught a few fish. Evening: the explorers did return, the weather had detained them—had been through an awful rough country, abounding in elk, moose, and bear, all of which they saw. I'm sorry I was

We got up at four o'clock, breakfasted and started. They return; I go on. Staried at eight; had a long slow day, through wood and marsh. Stopped about five o'clock, no midday halt, and was pretty hungry by the time I had done the horses, baked, &c. A lovely day. I'm camped about a mile from the north-east corner of

Henry Lakla, a beautiful silver shoot at the foot of the nine mountains. Missed a good running shot at antelope. I dropped on unexpectedly. Horse finched while I was aiming, and I had to jump off. The antelope had some way on, and was some way off when I loaded. Bought two more blankets for my friends, and I had some more. I had some more to make shelter for my goods as it does at the present moment. To the left of shelter one horse is smoking, the feeding, and the mountains behind have some snow. It's clouding ominously.

Had a good night and fine, my shelter admirable, no oven damp with dew inside. Started about eight o'clock and soon got into main trail from Virginia City. It is pleasant being in a good trail again; one can look about and dream instead of watching the ground intently at the time. By the bye, I have a sort of double existence. I am down in England. Made a mid-day ha-

I always dream in England. Made a mid-day nap to-day. After luncheon didn't strike water till past six o'clock, my camp, by the river to-night, poor ground and heaps of mosquitoes. Afternoon all through dense forest, now and then I came to a bit that had been burned, poles all white and bare save for a few knotted arms, a network of fallen trees and many half fallen supporting others—such desolation! It reminded me of the picture of the flood in the old Sunday B.M. heap of dead and dying people lying round, and a lot of women and children clinging to a few surviving men. There are two wagons two days ahead of me, I think.

A dull morning. About noon struck an old stage station, a log house, standing for four horses, and a smoky room with pellet and some hay, outside an old stage coach. The weather looked so threatening that I determined to stop here to-night. Went a short ride into the forest to look for game, but had to come back fast, and just got to shelter when the storm came; rained till half past six; now a dull, wet night.

Rode over an obelisk mountain through the forest about four miles Firehole Station, a hotel. Nobody there except proprietor and mail-man. During the ride I had a shot at white-tailed deer. A fine night. camped under a tree near the hotel; didn't bother about putting up shelter.

Lo: sold Selby Rowland, a retired
up a remand at the police-court, to
hugged with biting of the nose
reason. The prisoner pleaded not
had done it. The magistrate
whom they imposed the extreme
incarceration with hard labour

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

Bow-street.

ALLEGED FORGERIES ON SIR WILLIAM VERNER.—On Tuesday, Donald Shaw, 38, who gave an address in Conduit-street, Regent-street, said to be an ex-captain of the 88th Regiment, was further charged before Mr. Vaughan with uttering forged acceptances under circumstances already reported, with intent to defraud Sir William Verner. Mr. George Whittaker, tailor, of Conduit-street, deposed that he had known defendant sixteen years. He had lost sight of him for some time until October last, when he called on witness, and gave an order for £30 worth of clothes, professing to pay for them by bills of the prosecutor's. He produced two bills for £50 each purporting to be accepted by Sir W. Verner, from which witness deducted the amount of his account and handed the prisoner the balance (£70) by cheque. A boot-maker named Gordon, living in Blackfriars-road, deposed to certain monetary transactions he had with Mr. Mould, a solicitor in Carey-street, about which he had an interview in August, and was introduced to the prisoner. Mr. Mould represented that prisoner owed him money, and wanted to pay it out of a bill for £100 drawn by Sir W. Verner, and if witness would discount it, he (Mr. Mould) would pay the amount he owed witness. He subsequently agreed to discount the bill, which was duly presented, but was renewed for a month by another bill. Both these acceptances purported to be drawn by Sir William Verner. Witness subsequently discounted another bill for £100, alleged to have been drawn by prosecutor. Mr. Thomas Cobb (Cobb and Co.), auctioneers, Upper Baker-street, proved discounting a similar bill for £200 for the prisoner in November last. Sir William Verner proved the signatures of the above acceptances to be forgeries, and the prisoner was committed for trial.

Marlborough-street.

On Monday, George Payne, of No. 2, Robert-street, a baker, was charged before Mr. Newton with bigamy. Mr. B. Abrahams defended. From the evidence of an old woman, the mother of the first wife, it appeared that the prisoner, in the year 1855, married a woman named Ryan, at the church of St. Philip, Stepney, in the name of Henry Norman Measures. The witness said she was positive the prisoner was the man. Mr. Thomas Weir Ryan, of Carlton-road, Kentish-town, brother of the first wife, stated that he knew the prisoner said he had not married the woman. Certificates of the marriage were put in. Mr. Abrahams addressed the magistrate, and the prisoner was committed to the Central Criminal Court, bail being accepted.

Marylebone.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.—Frank Dale and F. Bodé alias Mathews, on Tuesday, were charged on remand with conspiring together to obtain £52 10s. by means of a forged endorsement on a false cheque from Mr. William Whiteley, of Westbourne-grove. Inspectors Littlechild and Lansdown, of Scotland-yard, proved arresting the prisoners at Laurence Pountney-hill, City, where the words "Gurney, Sons, and Co., wine merchants," were painted up, no wine merchant's business, however, being found to be carried on. Evidence was also given as to the obtaining of some goods by Bodé from a firm in Bonville-street. The prisoners reserved their defence, and Mr. Cooke committed them for trial for conspiracy and forgery.

Westminster.

PADDOY FROM CORN.—On Tuesday, Jane Howie, a well-dressed woman, who said she had no home, was charged on remand, with stealing on the 29th ult., from the person of Daniel Joseph Flavin, a butter merchant of Cork, £4 10s. in gold, a gold scarf-pin, and an umbrella, at 54, Limerston-street, Westminster, and Charles Meyers, of 85, York-street, Westminster, was also included in the charge. It was only as representing himself falsely to be a detective constable of the Metropolitan Police force, but also as being an accessory after the fact to the aforesaid robbery. On the night in question the prosecutor met the prisoner as he left the Grand Hotel, at Charing-cross, and, after partaking of drink, accompanied the female prisoner to the house in Limerston-street, owned by the male prisoner. He had evidently been drugged, for about three o'clock on the following morning he found himself alone and robbed of the property mentioned in the charge. He made his way out of the house, having in vain called "Police," and at the street door he was met by the man Meyers, who asked what was the matter. The prosecutor at once said that he had been robbed by a woman, and wished to see a constable. Meyers replied that he was a detective, and would see into the matter, for the house was a respectable one, and so were the inhabitants, and the prosecutor at once said that he did not believe it, and seeing constable Langley, he went across the road with Meyers to make his complaint, and also to see if Meyers were a constable. Langley knowing him not to be one, but a notorious disorderly-house keeper, at once took him to the station, and afterwards proceeded to a house some distance off, where he found the woman in bed at the top of the house, and made her at once dress. She reached over the head of the bed, and in removing something the prosecutor's pin dropped on the floor, and his umbrella was also found in the place. Evidence having been given that the house was of the worst character, and that Meyers had trafficked in this class of establishment for some time, and in fact was about to become the subject of indictment for keeping a disorderly house, Mr. Partridge remanded the prisoners.

Southwark.

GAMMON AND DOG STRALING.—On Tuesday, George Bayless, 35, a convicted dog stealer, was brought before Mr. Slade, on remand, and charged with stealing from the Borough Co-operative Stores, Blackman-street, a gammon of bacon, the property of George Mackness. George Harvey, a detective-sergeant, said that on Saturday night, the 26th ult., he was on duty in High-street, Borough, with Detective Pickels, when they saw the prisoner loitering about the shops, and knowing him to be a notorious thief they watched him for some distance. At the corner of Trinity-street and Blackman-street he stopped looking in the doorway of the store, where there were several large pieces of bacon exposed for sale. After looking at them for some time he seized upon a large piece called a "gammon" and ran off with it. Witness pursued him, and as soon as he saw he was followed, he threw the bacon down and tried to make his escape, but Sergeant Pickels captured him, and he was taken to the station-house. On searching the prisoner he found a kind of "lasso" used for dog-catching, and some dried liver used by dog stealers to entice the animals away. The prisoner begged of his worship to deal with him at once as he was guilty. Henry Ward, sessions officer, Wandsworth House of Correction, said that the prisoner had been twice convicted of dog stealing at the Surrey Sessions. Mr. Slade committed the prisoner for trial.

Thames.

THREATENING THE BEAK.—On Tuesday, Jeremiah Murphy, a repulsive, sullen-looking young man, of No. 20, Wells-place, Gower's-walk, Whitechapel, was charged with being concerned, with other men not in custody, in violently assaulting Samuel Dorwin, a sailor staying at Well-street Sailors' Home, and attempting to rob him. Some time ago the prisoner was charged at this court for assault, and while the case was proceeding, he suddenly took one of his boots off, weighing about four pounds, and hurled it with "all his force" at the constable's head, but, fortunately, he happened to see it coming, and quickly moved his head, the boot striking some work close by, and cutting a piece completely out. He was at once secured by several constables, his boots taken away from him, and for that offence he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour. At half-past 12 o'clock Tuesday morning the prosecutor was passing the corner of Cable-street to go to Well-street Home, when the prisoner struck him a violent blow on the right ear with his fist, making it bleed, and he took off his belt to try and protect himself. The prisoner again struck him behind the ear, and whistled to three more men who came up, and one of them said, "You black, you have no right to be knocking about here," and that man and the accused struck him. All the ruffians then set upon him, knocked him down, and kicked him savagely about the face, head and body, the prisoner kicking him violently on the forehead. Both his trousers' pockets were torn completely out, but he had no money in them, and his cries for assistance brought William Reed, a constable, to the spot. The other men made off, but

he captured the prisoner and took him to Leman-street station. When he was charged in the morning, the prosecutor was not in attendance, and as he was being put back in his cell he said, "I'll put my boot through Mr. Saunders's head this afternoon." While the evidence was being taken in the case the prisoner suddenly made a quick movement to get his right boot off, but Stubbs, the assistant-gaoler, and other officers of the court, were quickly on the alert, and at once rushed into the dock and prevented him carrying out his intention. Stubbs stood alongside to prevent his attempting to carry out any further act of violence, and in answer to a question whether he wished to put any questions to the witnesses, he kept looking in a sullen manner towards the bench, and used a foul expression. He asked to be dealt with summarily, and on Mr. Saunders committing him for trial he said, "Why don't you hang me?" The officers, knowing his desperate character, escorted him to a cell at the rear of the building.

Wandsworth.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND CLERK.—On Wednesday, Charles Greville, a clerk in the Bank of England, residing at Gerrard Lodge, South-fields, Wandsworth, was summoned for riding on the South-Western Railway without paying his fare. The defendant said it was accidental, but he would plead guilty. He had taken a season ticket to prevent a recurrence. It was stated that the defendant gave the name of Charles Smith, and a false address. As he had been seen not to take tickets, and was known not to be a season ticket holder, an officer watched him to Putney, and asked him for his ticket. He said that he had given it up at the barrier, but when he was told that he had not, he said that he was very sorry. The defendant said it was not a fraud. The false address was given in consideration of his family. Mr. Sheil said the defendant would serve his family better by acting like an honest man. He fined him 40s., with 21 3s. costs.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS.

At a special sitting of the Belper magistrates on Tuesday, George Bestwick, a collier, of Ireton Houses, near Belper, was committed for trial on two charges—firstly, of wilfully murdering Samuel Falconbridge at Belper, on the night of November 26th; and, secondly, with unlawfully residing with intent to murder Samuel Walker, a collier, at Bengate.

At Coway Police-court, on Tuesday, a quarryman named William Jones was committed for two months' hard labour for assaulting Mr. Charles S. Elam, son of a physician living in Hall's street, London. The offence was committed in September, the prisoner, when drunk, kicking at Mr. Elam's bicycle which was descending a hill near Penmanmawr. Mr. Elam was thrown to the ground with great force, and for some days his life was despaired of.

Charles Longbottom, a Hindly, described as of the Temperance Club, Arundel-street, Strand, was, at Scarborough on Tuesday, committed for trial at the ensuing quarter sessions, on the charge of having fraudulently appropriated the value of twenty-seven pictures—£415—to his own use, and George Driver, 11, were brought before the Belper magistrates on Tuesday, charged with three offences of housebreaking committed on Nov. 27th. From an office and warehouse they stole 15s. worth of stamps and other property, and did £2 worth of damage, and from a railway cabin and a workshop they also took various articles. Driver was sentenced to receive six strokes of a birch rod, and Brool to fourteen days' imprisonment and five years in a reformatory.

At Manchester on Tuesday two thieves were caught in a bold robbery at the jeweller's shop of Mr. Mayor, situated in an angle of the Manchester Exchange. Half an hour after midnight and the moment a policeman on the beat had passed by, a padlock which secured a folding shutter was forced, and the thieves snatched some watches worth a reach, but were disturbed by a gentleman who happened to see them. They took flight, but more than a dozen policemen were on duty within a short distance, and they were arrested. They styled themselves John Barrett, factory hand, and Thomas Campbell, stonemason. Both were committed for trial.

During a quarrel about the possession of a cottage at Birch, near Hereford, between William and Joseph Morgan, father and son, the former having been locked outside, burst in the door with an axe and attacked his son with a bill-hook, nearly severing a hand from his body. The father has been apprehended, and the son lies at Hereford Infirmary in a precarious state.

At the Birmingham Police-court, on Wednesday, Samuel Underhill and William Smith Parker were committed for trial at the Borough Quarter Sessions, the former for stabbing and the latter for assaulting by kicking James Farr, whom they attacked without any provocation on a dangerous scalp wound two inches in length. It is only right to state that since the magistrates began, some six months ago, to deal severely with these rowdies the number of street outrages has greatly diminished.

THE SUNDERLAND LIBRARY.

A great day has to be chronicled as the sixth of the historical auction in Leicester-square, the total of the four hours' sale being no less a sum than £4,139 14s. As on previous days the heroic bids were chiefly those of Mr. Quaritch, but he was in some cases the underbidder of Mr. Ellis, with whom, it may be said, he divided the spoil, taking the lion's share. The sale opened at one o'clock, and the disposal of the grand collection of Bibles was continued, prices varying considerably, but not reaching any very high figure till a Henry VIII. edition, in English, known as Cramer's or "the Great" Bible was knocked down to Messrs. Leighton and Son for £115. The next bid worth special notice was for the magnificent Bible, printed on vellum, and known as the "Vinegar" Bible, the word being misprinted for "Vineyard" in reference to the parable. For this copy Mr. Lawler gave £225. The series of catalogues classed under the head of Bibliotheca came in order next to the Bibles, and the first on the list, being the original catalogue of the Sunderland Library, in three volumes, with the Sunderland arms on the sides, was bought by Mr. Denton for £415. The sale proceeded without excitement till the superb collection of Boccaccio's works was reached, and at once Mr. Quaritch raised the general interest of the crowded assembly by giving in succession £920, £210, £285, and £400 for choice editions of Colard Mansion's book, printed at Bruges, "De la Ruine des Nobles Hommes et Femmes;" "De la Louange et Vertu des Nobles et Cleres Dames;" and "Le Roman de la Rose" in one volume; the "Decamerone" of Christopher Valdarfer, being the first edition with a date; and another "Decamerone," being probably the first book printed at Mantua. Though no particular book reached a price of four figures, as previously been; and the purchase of the Bruges "De la Ruine" for upwards of £400 was regarded by experienced biblioplists as one of the boldest strokes ever made in the auction-room of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, rich as are its annals of courageous buying.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.—All the members of the Royal Commission on Technical Instruction have returned to England. The chairman, Mr. Samuelson, M.P., remained at Paris for some days in order to obtain additional information on the general policy of the Department of Public Instruction. The selection of the members of the commission, on account of their acquaintance with different branches of the inquiry, has proved very useful. Dr. Rosscoe having been able to devote his attention more particularly to chemical technology, Mr. Philip Magnus to school organisation, and Mr. Blagg, M.P., Mr. Woodall, M.P., and Mr. Swire Smith to the bearing with which they are familiar. It is proposed to take evidence of experts in this country in February, and to visit Germany, Switzerland and Belgium in the spring.

This year the Clothworkers' exhibition of £25 10s. per annum for proficiency in physical science, to be an unattached student of Oxford or Cambridge, has been awarded to Mr. J. Davies, of Cambridge, and the same company's exhibition of £30 per annum for a Cambridge unattached student has been adjudged to Mr. S. H. Williams.

COLONEL BURNABY ON THE CABINET.

Colonel Burnaby, at the annual meeting of the Conservatives of St. Thomas's Ward, Birmingham, on Wednesday night, delivered an address, in which he said they were aware that not very long ago the Government had sent down their most trusted swashbuckler, their "Bombastes Furioso"—(hear, hear)—their Sir William Harcourt, to defend their Irish policy before the people of this country. But, finding he had a very bad case, Sir William resorted to a *tu quoque* argument, saying that Lord Beaconsfield himself was aware, as shown by his letter to the Duke of Marlborough, of the dangerous revolution then going on in Ireland, so that the Conservatives were responsible for the state of conflagration which exists there now. (Laughter.) But he forgot to tell his audience that the Peace Preservation Act was then in force, and that Lord Beaconsfield was quite prepared to pass another Act, if that had not proved strong enough. But Sir William Harcourt concealed the facts from his audience; he drew a red herring across Mr. Gladstone's track; but the majority of educated Englishmen will not be imposed upon by the

Egotistic Bombast.

swaggering bounce, and insufferable bluster of the hectoring Sir William Harcourt. (Hear, hear.) They knew that his opinions were feeble ones, save as to his high appreciation and admiration of Harcourt. They see him offering up the incense of flattery in its most fulsome form to Mr. Gladstone now that the Lord Chancellor is in a state of ill-health. They remember the comparison that Sir William has drawn between the present Prime Minister and Lord Hartington when Mr. Gladstone's star seemed to be waning, and Lord Hartington's to be bright and clear. With the hope of becoming Lord Chancellor, Sir William is now prepared servilely to lick Mr. Gladstone's boots. Leaving this Hector enjoying the sweets of his present occupation, he (Colonel Burnaby) turned to the doctrine preached by Mr. Chamberlain that it was expedient not at once to suppress the Land League. It was expedient that not one landlord, but many landlords, should die; that agents and process-servers should be murdered, women attacked, cattle mutilated and tortured, and Ireland set on fire; and all this merely to pass Mr. Gladstone's Land Bill. (Shame.) A fouler and more pernicious doctrine had never been preached since

The Days of Calaphas.

(Loud cheers.) Strange to say, that doctrine of expediency was not repudiated by Liberals; it has been accepted tacitly by not only the rank-and-file of the party, but by Mr. Gladstone himself. Half-hearted men will invariably suffer a great deal of inconvenience before they can be induced to make up their minds to sever a connection, however distasteful that connection may be. Hence,

Lord Half-Hartington

(laughter)—remains in office. He will require to be well soused with the cold water of public opinion before he will quit his couch, even when he finds himself tormented and bitten by Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain. (Renewed laughter.) But if the moderate Liberals forget their political existence, it was their duty to galvanise them into life. Ask them if they approve of Mr. Gladstone's conduct towards Austria—one day posing in the character of a man ready to throw down the gauntlet and fight, another, showing the white feather—initiating a policy of feebleness and funk, and fawning on the Austrian he had just before defied.

LONDONDERRY ELECTION.

The result of the polling in county Londonderry was officially declared on Wednesday as follows:

Mr. Porter (L)	2,701
Sir Samuel Wilson (C)	2,054
Mr. C. J. Dempsey	55
Liberal Majority	647

After the announcement of the figures Mr. Porter moved a vote of thanks to the returning officer, in seconding the motion, Sir Samuel Wilson intimated that a petition would be presented against the return of the Solicitor-General, and it is understood that the petition will be founded on a circular promising reduction of rents if Mr. Porter were returned, and it is said that high legal authorities have given their opinion in favour of a petition.

MR. BRADLAUGH AND THE OATH.

The arguments on the 3rd inst. in this case, which came before the Court in the form of a rule nisi for a new trial, the question was whether a certain division in the House of Commons had or had not taken place before the issue of the writ in the action.—Sir H. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. Bradlaugh appeared in person.—Mr. Bradlaugh, in continuing his arguments in support of the rule, submitted that from the plaintiff's evidence at the trial, the voting took place, as near as possible, at 3.38, but that in any case, whether relying upon the evidence at the trial, or upon the telegraphic despatches referred to in the affidavits he produced, the voting took place after 3.30, the 2nd July, he would ask their lordships absolutely to disbelieve the evidence of James Stuart as given at the trial. The explanation of the mistake having occurred in the issue of the writ was that, at that time, the moment when the writ was issued was not thought to be of any consequence, but the only consideration was that the writ was issued any time after he had affirmed.—At the close of the arguments, Mr. Justice Deaman said that however reluctant they might be to have the case re-opened, yet it did appear to him and his learned brother that it would be more satisfactory that the matter should be most thoroughly investigated with the aid of all the light which could be thrown upon it by any kind of admissible evidence which could be produced. That could only be done by granting a new trial. In accordance with this view the Court would make a rule absolute accordingly.—As Mr. Bradlaugh left Westminster Hall he was cheered by a number of his assembled supporters. Dr. Aveling and the Misses Bradlaugh were in court during the hearing, the former taking copious notes.

In the Court of Queen's Bench sitting at Guildhall on Tuesday, the case of Swagman v. Bradlaugh, M.P., was in the list for hearing. It was brought to recover £91 penalties from the defendant for having taken and voted in the House of Commons without having taken the oath as prescribed by law.—Mr. Crump, on behalf of the plaintiff, explained that some of the points raised in the case were also in dispute in another case, now an appeal to the House of Lords, and asked that this case should be allowed to stand out of the list until the appeal had been decided.—Mr. Bradlaugh, who appeared in person, said he had given his consent in order to avoid wasting the time of the Court.—His lordship made the necessary order.

YARMOUTH HERRING FISHING.—All the Fifeshire crews who have been engaged in the Yarmouth and Lowestoft herring fishing have now returned, and they report the season to have been unprecedentedly successful. The earnings ranged from £150 to £300 for seven weeks, and one crew netted £700. The total drawings of the fleet amounts to upwards of £30,000.

SALE OF ROYAL FAT STOCK.—The annual sale of fat stock at the Prince Consort's Shaw Farm, Windsor, on Tuesday, was held on Wednesday by Messrs. Buckland and Sons, of Windsor. The stock comprised 30 shorthorn Hereford and Devon heifers, 450 Down and Cheviot and cross-bred sheep, and 100 good bacon pigs and porkers, the property of the Duke of Connaught, and the Duke of Devonshire. The Duke of Connaught visited the farm and inspected the stock and the luncheon table. The Duke of Devonshire also visited the farm in the course of the morning. The bullocks realised from £30 to £20. Berkshire hogs realised from £12 to £10. Prince Consort's Windsor breed of bacon pigs, £2 10s. to £4 10s. The Duke of Connaught's bullocks realised high prices.

MR. BRIGHT ON THINGS IN GENERAL.

On Thursday, the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P., laid the foundation stone of the new Board Schools at Llanudno, and subsequently delivered an address, in the course of which he adverted to the condition of education in England and Wales a few years ago, and the little assistance given by the great universities to the cause of the education of the people. We were at last, he said, beginning to awake to the importance of properly training the youth of the country, though even now, if we travelled through the country, the great public buildings which were to be seen were poor-houses and prisons—memorials and proofs of the unwisdom of past Governments, and to some extent to the charity of the public. Mr. Bright proceeded to say that

The Curse of Pauperism

was to be attributed to bad laws and the bad policy of Governments. Laws which favoured the accumulation of land and the constant preservation of great estates had the effect of banishing from the country into the town a large population. They had the effect, in point of fact, of divorcing the people from the soil, and he was of opinion that if the land laws of this country had been just, and if we had now, and had had for say a couple of centuries past, laws in regard to the land that made it as free as we have now made the produce of the land, that there would have been probably at this moment double the population cultivating and living independently on the soil, and we should have had nothing of distress and the trouble which is the constant complaint and wailing of the comparatively small number of farmers that are now in the country. (Hear, hear.)

We Saw in Ireland

what results from erroneous legislation, and the continuance of erroneous legislation, through successive centuries, with regard to land; and if it were possible to say that there should be no change whatsoever in the laws affecting land in this country, the time would not be very remote when we should have suffering and confusion in England that would make us greatly regret that we did not at an earlier period apply some remedy to the evils which exist now. (Hear, hear.) The question of pauperism was connected distinctly with the question of education, or rather of ignorance, as it was also connected with the question of crime. Mr. Bright then referred to the wars carried on by England at various times, in all parts of the world, and to the taxes which had now to be raised to cover the interest of the debts contracted to carry them on, as having had a great bearing upon the existence of so much ignorance amongst the great bulk of the population. It was not saying anything discourteous or slanderous to the population to say that amongst a very large portion of that education seemed yet to have made but little way. We had an enormous amount to pay every year for the support of the poor. Considering that we professed to be a Christian country, we were shocked almost continually by the occurrence, not only of a multitude of offences but of very serious crimes, and during a long period we had had the most

Barbarous Criminal Code

to be found in any Christian nation. We need not be surprised, therefore, that we had poor houses very large and in great numbers, that we had prisons not quite so numerous, but very large, and offering a sort of dark shade to the landscape wherever we looked upon it. If you have poverty in the cottage, depend upon it there is something wrong either with the people or with the Government under which they live. (Cheers.) We had now begun a new and a better system. Instead of adding more poor-houses and more prisons, we proposed to add large commodious establishments and buildings for the education of our people. (Cheers.) After contrasting the cost of education and the appliances of education, a generation since to what they were to-day, Mr. Bright said he knew he should be criticised as not being a scholar himself. He was one of those who, in the sense of high-cultured people, never had any education. (Laughter.) He learned some Latin and very little Greek. (Renewed laughter.) But all the Greek had gone long since—(loud laughter)—and traces of the Latin only remained. (Laughter.) What he wanted the people to do and know was that which furnished them for their daily duty, which gave them self-respect, and which taught them to respect others—(cheers)—which made them better children in their families, which taught them to respect and have regard and reverence for their parents. He thought also that through Board schools, if the masters only did their duty, they might render great services in the way of temperance. The right hon. gentleman briefly touched upon the

Welsh Sunday Closing Bill.

remarking that there would not be much to regret if the English members followed the example of those of Wales in that particular. After passing in review the leading events of the period from 1832 to the present hour, touching upon the extension of the franchise, the repeal of the corn laws and of the paper and stamp duties, Mr. Bright concluded as follows: I believe that, looking to our home affairs, we may expect, with regard to our legislation, that we may have greater justice done between class and class, and when the terms class and class may be in time almost obliterated by the effect of our becoming a united people and nation. With regard to our foreign affairs, may we not hope, as to that, looking to the past—to the page of glory—false glory, of glory based upon misery and bloodshed, that page shall be a new page written, and that the historian of the future shall record in it, for the advantage of our children and our children's children, that we have come to a time of a higher civilization, and of a higher and purer national morality. (Loud cheers.)

FRENCH CROWN JEWELS.

The Ministry of Finance was visited on Wednesday by the Parliamentary Committee entrusted with the examination of the bill relative to the sale of the Crown jewels. The committee was received by M. Antonin Proust and by MM. Bapst, the jewellers, who gave it all the necessary information. It appears that during the Restoration the Crown jewels were deposited with the Bapsts. Under Louis Philippe they were kept in the Garde Meuble, and during the Empire M. Thierry had them safely locked up in a strong box. They are now in chests in a cellar at the Ministry of Finance, and it is in this subterranean chamber that they were laid out on Wednesday. The ornaments that possess a historic or artistic value had been separated from the rest. They include a collection of decorations sent to the sovereigns of France by foreign monarchs, and are valued at £8,000 sterling; a watch, presented by the Dey of Algiers to Louis Quatorze, and worth £120; a brooch of diamonds, of antique cut, valued at about £3,000; and a sword, the hilt of which, mounted in 1824, is a fine specimen of chaste French workmanship. MM. Bapst advised the committee to retain all these articles, as they were really worth far more than their money value. There is, consequently, every reason to believe that they will eventually find their way to the Apollo Gallery at the Louvre. As for the "Regent," a diamond unique in the world on account of its size, the jewellers also opposed its sale. It was formerly valued as high as half a million sterling, but there is always a risk that it might not fetch more than £25,000, and its acquisition by some enterprising showman would be scarcely creditable to the country. Such were the arguments used by MM. Bapst, and their counsels will probably be followed in this as in any other matters. The other jewels, estimated—on bloc—at about half a million pounds, have no historic value. There are only three parures, the sapphire, the turquoise, and the ruby parure, the last made expressly for the Duchesse de Berry. All the other jewels were arranged and altered again and again to suit the taste of the Empress Eugénie.

At Lord Boston's rent audit on Tuesday it was announced that his lordship, who attained his majority last month, had granted a reduction of 10 per cent. on the half-year's rent of his Welsh estates, with permission to the tenants to kill all the rabbits.

LUDGATE-HILL, PAST AND PRESENT.*

Far away into the thick darkness of primal antiquity stretches the history of London, which, if not nominally the capital of the country, was a large commercial centre long enough before Caesar set foot on our shores, or even before Pytheas of Massilia explored the islands whence men brought tin in the age of bronze. Nay, as far back as any record of our race exists, in the days when, if the geologists are to be believed, the British Channel had not yet been scooped out by the wearing of the waters and the wasting of the shore, when the Thames was still a tributary of the Rhine, and the mammoth and the hippopotamus still haunted its marshy banks, man found a home where London now stands. To track the history of Ludgate-hill from that day to this would be to write the story of humanity itself. Mr. Treloar is animated by no such vast ambition. His aim is to give us, not a legend of the ages, but a readable handbook to the locality, and in this he has been eminently successful. With him, the history of Ludgate begins naturally with King Lud of doubtful memory, a king to whom he is disposed to allow at least the somewhat negative merit of having once existed. Even this, however, we fear, is hardly a fact which can be regarded as historic. Our early chroniclers, who they came to a blank in our annals, proceeded on a simple but effective plan. Finding certain well-known localities without a history, they invented kings and queens and events to match, with a fine exuberant freedom, unhampered by any base regard for fact, to account for the names. Ludgate, we may be well assured, was in existence before King Lud was evolved out of the historian's brain, just as the whole myth about London being the Troy Novant or New Troy was deduced from the fact that in early ages a tribe called the Trinobantes existed somewhere in this part of the world. This circumstance in itself, however, demonstrates the vast antiquity of Ludgate. As Mr. Treloar well says, "Ludgate Hill has been a representative locality from the earliest age from which we can date either records or traditions of London. It was the famous highway of our chronicles, for it was in the midst of noted churches, castles, palaces, courts of ecclesiastical and civil law, hospitals, prisons, priories, theatres, fairs and markets; and was daily crowded with nobles, priests, knights, mendicant friars, flagellants, pilgrims, men-at-arms, citizens and yeomen; who visited its shops and stalls, or passed about its narrow streets, many of which led to the mansions of the nobility in various parts of the City between St. Bride's or Holborn and the Tower." It will be seen that Mr. Treloar by no means limits Ludgate-hill to the Post-office definition of the street from Ludgate-circus to St. Paul's, but takes the word in its topographical sense, and deals with the whole of the higher ground to which it applies from what was once the Fleet River eastwards. Bridewell, Baynard's Castle, Paul's Wharf and Fiddle Dock, the Wardrobe, Printing-house-square, Old St. Paul's, Lollard Tower, the Bell Sauvage, Shakespeare's Theatre at Blackfriars, Doctors' Commons, Stationers' Hall, Paternoster-row, the Fleet, Blackfriars Bridge—such are some of the localities which come within his purview, and about each and all he has a pleasant budget of gossip and information, fact and myth and legend, old tradition, and novel anecdote to present.

Take as an example the following extract in reference to the truly remarkable functions performed by certain clerical gentlemen in the precincts of the Fleet at a date by no means so remote as that of King Lud:—

"Even to those who have heard of 'runaway matches' and marriages at Gretna Green, the Fleet marriages are now scarcely credible. There is ample evidence, however, that within the Fleet or its liberties—in dingy lodgings, low taverns, or beer-houses—a number of besotted, broken-down and unscrupulous parsons, drunken chaplains and other debased clergymen, carried on a competitive business in marrying people with little or no ceremony. Some of these weddings were originally performed in the chapel of the prison, but the business became so extensive that they were afterwards celebrated in some dingy room in one or other of the taverns, each of which kept its book of registers. These marriages, of course, were not strictly legal, and yet in such a condition was the ecclesiastical law that they were tacitly recognised as being valid, and if conducted by one of the Fleet parsons, were not to be dissolved. A collection of the register books, weighing more than a ton, and recording Fleet marriages between 1686 and 1754, was purchased by the Government in 1821, and deposited in the registry office of the Bishop of London, in Doctors' Commons, and among the names are many of great celebrity and high rank.

"There were three classes of marriages at the Fleet. Those of couples who had eloped and desired to be married immediately and secretly—those who followed a kind of fashion, for it became fashionable with a certain 'fast' set of people to be married at the Fleet, or, having made up their minds in a moment, hurried to the parson before they had time to change it, and those in which women were inveigled under some false pretence, or forcibly carried there, and intimidated into consenting to a ceremony of which they did not understand the meaning, but which by a few incoherent words bound them to a life-long compact.

"The parsons had tents about Ludgate-hill and Fleet-market, or themselves stood at their doors inviting likely couples to come in and be married; and it may be imagined what were the results of such a disgraceful practice. A bride or bridegroom could be found at a few minutes' notice, for a consideration, and registers could be either destroyed or ante-dated if a suitable arrangement were made. It was known that extravagant ladies had been to the Fleet and had hired husbands for the ceremony, merely that they might obtain a certificate enabling them to evade their creditors by pleading coverture against any action for debt.

"Marriages, with a licence certificate and a crown stamp, at a guinea, at the new chapel, next door to the china shop near Fleet Bridge, by a regular-bred clergyman, and not by a Fleet parson, is part of an advertisement in the *Daily Advertiser* in 1740, and a hand-bill of the period invited candidates for matrimony to 'the true chapel at the Old and New and Miter, three doors from Fleet-place, and next door to the White Swan, where the ceremony was performed by authority by the Reverend Mr. Symon, educated at the University of Cambridge, and late chaplain to the Earl of Rothes.' An

emphatic line at the foot of the bill is, 'N.B.—Without imposition.' One window bears a board with 'Weddings performed cheap here;' another announces 'The Old and True Register,' and at the Horse Shoe and Magpie, the Rainbow Coffee-house at the corner of the Ditch, the Hand and Pen, the Bishop Blaize, the Fighting Cocks, the Naked Boy, and other brandy shops, taverns, and ale houses, some of them kept by the turnkeys, and most of them houses of call for the parsons who are called in by the landlord and share their fees with him, the nefarious work goes on daily."

Perhaps as interesting as any portion of the handbook is the account given of the earlier great bookselling establishments in Paternoster-row and the immediate neighbourhood, but we have no room for further extracts, and must refer those who wish to learn more about Ludgate-hill and its precincts to Mr. Treloar. They will not find his work by any means that of a scientific historian or erudite archaeologist. It is rather a labour of love undertaken by one who takes a kindly human interest in scenes long familiar to him, and has been at some pains to trace their history and associations. It is what it professes to be, a guide-book for the general reader to a special limited area, well illustrated, prettily, got up, and pleasantly written.

A WEST-END HOAX.

It would seem that some one in the West-end has, during the past few days, been seized with a sudden desire to emulate the example of Theodore Hook as a practical joker; for a hoax which was the means of bringing together over two hundred individuals to answer in person an advertisement in one of our contemporaries, has been perpetrated. The advertisement set forth that a secretary was required by a distinguished artist, who was prepared to give a liberal salary to a suitable person. The position would not be filled for a week, and the applicants were requested to apply personally between the hours of ten and four. It was stated that all applications would be attended to; and what was more singular still was, that the advertiser gave his name and address. With the anxiousness of those who were desirous of investing their all in the South Sea scheme, scores of gentlemen, who made sure, from the distinctions they had obtained at college, in the army, or society circles, to secure the appointment, wrote out their testimonials, and lost no time in making their way to the West-end, presented their cards and letters, and requested to see the "distinguished artist." From ten in the morning till dusk, the door of the supposed advertiser was kept going on his hinges, and the butler was almost driven wild with the persistent inquiries of callers. He assured one and all that his master, who "really was a rising artist," had been the victim of "a fearful hoax," and he had proceeded to Fleet-street to see the editor of the paper in which the advertisement had appeared, and have it contradicted; moreover he intended taking the advice of a magistrate to see if he could punish those who had placed him in such a ridiculous position. Many of the inquirers who had come long distances, and at great personal inconvenience, swore vengeance on the artist, his works and his future reputation. One declared that "he would write to the *Times*," another that "he would bring the matter to the notice of the police;" and a third "that the advertiser was a swindler, and possesses more money than wit." But the hoax had not been confined to gentlemen. A number of ladies put in their appearance to answer an advertisement purporting to be inserted by the same person, for a lady housekeeper. One old lady came all the way from Exeter, another from Brighton, and scores from all parts of London. Two more senseless and unkind hoaxes have seldom been committed in the metropolis, and it is to be hoped that those at fault will in some way or other be paid off in their own coin.

THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS.

A question of constitutional procedure in reference to the vacation of seats in Parliament has been the subject of a correspondence between the Prime Minister and Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M.P., for the past two or three weeks. In reply to Mr. Sullivan's formal request for appointment to the Chiltern Hundreds, the Prime Minister, who, by the way, prefaces his answer by an exceedingly warm and complimentary reference to Mr. Sullivan's position in the House of Commons, stated that the law on the subject was interpreted to mean not only that the writ could not be moved unless Parliament was sitting, but that a vacancy could not be created during the recess. Mr. Sullivan thereupon wrote to say that his impression was that although the writ could not be issued until Parliament met there was nothing to hinder the royal prerogative as to conferring an appointment, and thus relieving him of the position. He added that the point might be of some moment to him, as he was being engaged as Parliamentary counsel in a matter of some railway and other private bills coming before Parliament next session, and that he wished consequently to be free from even the appearance of conflict with the well-known rules of the House of Commons forbidding members to have pecuniary interests or profit in matters coming before the House. Mr. Gladstone has finally replied to the effect that, although what he conceives to be the prevalent custom will not be broken, the vacancy will be made in sufficient time to obviate any difficulty as to Mr. Sullivan's personal practice. With reference to the reported refusal of Mr. Gladstone to grant the Chiltern Hundreds to Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M.P., during the recess, the *Globe* points out that this refusal is not justified by precedent, as in the case of Barnstaple Mr. Waddy was granted the Chiltern Hundreds in December, 1879, in order that he might contest the representation of Sheffield.

MEMORIAL TO LIEUTENANT MACLAINE.—A memorial to this young officer, in the form of a stained-glass window, has just been completed in his native parish church at Thornbury, Gloucestershire. The subject of the memorial window is the angel delivering St. Peter out of prison. A brass plate beneath the window bears an inscription:—"In loving memory of Hector MacLaine, Lieutenant Royal Horse Artillery, eldest son of William Osborne and Anne MacLaine, of Lynnton, in this parish. He was taken prisoner in the retreat from Malmedy, and, after five weeks' captivity in the camp of Ayoub Khan, was murdered in the hour of British victory near Candahar, September 1, 1880."

FATAL BROOMHAM ACCIDENT.—Mr. St. Clare Bedford, corner for Westminster, held an inquiry on Tuesday evening relative to the death of William Rhodes Axford, aged 55, a coffee-house keeper, lately carrying on business at 1, Broomham-street, Museum-street, Bloomsbury, who died on the 30th ult. . . . injuries received on Oct. 24, in a collision between a brougham and a hansom cab in Grosvenor-square. . . . Mr. Henry Woods said he visited deceased in the hospital after the accident, and he stated that what he was going along Grosvenor-square he was met by a coachman, a friend of his, who was driving a brougham. The coachman, hearing deceased was proceeding in his direction, asked him to get on the box, which the deceased did. Whilst they were driving along the square, the horse took fright, and the brougham collided with a hansom cab. The coachman, Wm. Minter, of 4, Duke's-mews, Manchester-square, who elected to give evidence, deposed that the horse got the upper hand of him. When he was turning the corner, the driver of the hansom cab in question pulled across his path, instead of keeping to his proper side, the consequence being that the front wheel touched the brougham. There was a slight jerk, and witness did not know whether deceased was thrown off the box or jumped off. Witness missed him after the jerk. . . . A relative of the deceased, Henry Jones, of Manchester-square, said he saw and told him that the coachman forced the horse, and made him run away. . . . The coachman and a bystander died at the scene. . . . The deceased was a married man, and a father of a family. He died six days afterwards. He had a fatty heart. Death was undoubtedly accelerated by the injuries. The coroner having been informed that the cab-driver could not be found, a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

THE CALF ROCK LIGHTHOUSE.

Rescue of the Men.

The six men who have been on the Calf Rock for several days since the Calf Rock Lighthouse was partially destroyed, were rescued on Thursday afternoon, and safely brought to shore. Her Majesty's gunboat, *Seahorse*, Captain Gravener, and three small boats, under the direction of Michael O'Shea, left Dursey Sound in the morning, at nine o'clock. A life-buoy, with a line attached to it, was thrown by the men on to the rock, and picked up by O'Shea. A strong rope was fastened to it, and it was hauled on the rock by the men, who, then when the tide was low, rushed down the steps one at a time, and jumping into the sea, were dragged on board the small boats, and subsequently transferred to the *Seahorse*, where dry clothing and stimulants were supplied to them. They had cork jackets and lifebuoys on the rock, and put them on, which prevented them from sinking, but their passage seemed a very fearful one to the onlookers, as the surf washed over them, the sea being still very rough. When the last man came down he was completely enveloped by the waves with so much violence, that surprise was felt when he emerged uninjured. A tradesman named Byrne, who had come from Kingstown a short time ago to do some repairs at the lighthouse, appears to have suffered the most. He was fainting when he was lifted to the gunboat, but afterwards revived, and, it is hoped, will sustain no permanent injury from the hardships he has endured. O'Shea's courage and determination are greatly praised. Captain Gravener, of the *Seahorse*, presented him with £5 in recognition of his services, and made a similar gift to the crews of the three boats.

CHLOROFORM USED BY THIEVES.

At the Greenwich Police-court on Thursday Franz and Mary Wiesend, husband and wife, natives of Germany, were charged on remand with stealing a gold watch and chain, worth £29, the property of Mr. Isaac Battersby, of 29, Colchill-street, Pimlico, and two gold Albert chains and two rings, value £5, and £3 14s. in money, belonging to Mr. John Gallock, of 1, Pella-place, St. George's-in-the-East. In the first case the circumstances were of a singular nature. Mr. Battersby said he left his office at Euston Railway Station, where he is an accountant, at five o'clock on the evening of the 31st of August, and remembered only going a short distance, when he became unconscious, he believed from the effects of ether or chloroform. When he recovered sensibility he found he was in a cell at the Southwark Police-station, where he had been taken a drunk, having been found in the street. It was then three o'clock in the morning. He had nothing to do but account in any way for his being there. After he left Euston he had not entered any shop or house while conscious. On recovering consciousness in the police-cell he found he had been robbed of his watch and chain, and he now identified the watch produced as his; the chain was still missing. On the 28th ult. the prisoners were taken into custody on a charge of robbing their furnished lodgings at 89, Reginald-road, Deptford. The watch was found on the man, who declared it was his property, but the police found it corresponded in number and every particular with that stolen from Mr. Battersby. Several pawn-tickets had been found on the woman, relating to a chain, which was subsequently identified by Mr. Gallock, and other jewellery. Mr. Gallock now said that the female prisoner was with him as housekeeper from the 1st of October to the 26th. On the latter date she left without notice, and he afterwards found a box had been broken open, and two chains, two rings, and £2 14s. stolen. Emily Yohann, stepdaughter of the prosecutor, said the male prisoner used sometimes to sleep in the kitchen, and the woman threatened to kill her if she told her father. On the day she left the woman asked her if her father had plenty of money in his box. Two pawnbrokers' assistants identified the male prisoner as the man who pledged the chain. Mr. Marshall committed the prisoners for trial at the Central Criminal Court on the three charges.

STABBING AT BRIXTON.

At the Lambeth Police-court, on Thursday, Frank Field, a gentleman-looking young man, residing at his father's house, No. 4, Brixton-rise, a clerk, was charged on remand with feloniously cutting and wounding David Gibson, by stabbing him with a knife in the left breast with intent to do grievous bodily harm, at Brixton-rise. The former proceedings were reported in the *People* on Sunday last.—Samuel Madison, living at 73, Mordaunt-street, Stockwell, said on Wednesday evening week he saw the prisoner standing outside the gate of his father's house. His back was to the gate, and the prosecutor was standing by using most disgraceful language to him. The prosecutor put his umbrella against the railings, turned his coat sleeve up, and struck the prisoner on the face, but he could not say if it was with the fist or not. Then some words followed, but he did not see the prisoner strike the prosecutor.—Georgina Clayton, a dressmaker, living at Brixton-hill, said she was in the tram-car. She saw the prosecutor place his hand on the prisoner's shoulder, and keep it there all down the Blackfriars-road. The prisoner got his knife out and placed it on his shoulder, and words ensued between them. After the lapse of an hour the prosecutor appeared in court, having, as he stated, gone to fetch his solicitor. Mr. Saunders told him he had no right to have gone away; by so acting he had delayed the business of the Court.—The prosecutor said he had no desire to act improperly, and did not think he was doing so. He was then sworn, and said he was an engineer, and lived in Arlington-street. On the evening of the 30th ult., he got into a tram-car at Blackfriars, to proceed to Brixton. The prisoner was in the same car, and held up his elbows in such a manner as to annoy the prosecutor. He asked him three times to put down his elbows, but he made no reply, and only stared at him in an insulting way. He told the prisoner he should move them, and did so. The prisoner called him a Whitechapel cad.—He told him he should not quarrel in the car. He took out a knife and held it in a threatening manner. On getting out of the car, he followed the prisoner to his gate and asked him why he insulted him, and he said he did not intend to do so. Prosecutor said he would give him a good thrashing, and struck him on the top of his hat. The prisoner struck at him, one blow catching him on the left side. He did not notice if the prisoner had anything in his hand. He followed the prisoner to his door and when it was opened the prisoner's father called him a drunken blackguard and threatened to throw him down the steps. A policeman came, and when asked for his name and address he gave a false one. He felt ill after he left and then found he was bleeding from the left arm. He was sober and contented.—Cross-examined. Did not see the knife resting on the prisoner's arm in the car. The prisoner might have told him he could lean on him then as much as he liked. Did not say with regard to the prisoner, "Here's another Lefroy." Did not turn up his coat sleeve to strike the prisoner. Denied using filthy language; but gave a false name and address, because he did not wish to be bothered further in the matter.—This was the case for the prosecution. There were no witnesses to call for the defence.—Mr. Saunders said he should commit the prisoner for trial at the Central Criminal Court for unlawfully wounding.—The prisoner was formally re-committed.

We are glad to announce that at a general assembly held on Thursday evening, Mr. Peter Graham, the well-known landscape painter, was elected a Royal Academician.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., UPON THE VOLUNTEERS.—On Thursday evening Lord George Hamilton presented the prices to the Halifax Rifle Volunteers. He said that it was a memorable year in the annals of volunteering. The 50,000 men who marched past her Majesty at Windsor, and the scarcely less number in Scotland, gave abundant evidence to the whole world of the vitality and life of the reserve forces of the country. The former review showed also that our railway system, though a private enterprise, was capable of amassing vast numbers of men in a given spot with such promptitude that even the Germans, with their railway system constructed for strategical and military purposes could not equal.

Earl Cairns was much better on Thursday evening; but his lordship still keeps his room.

A heavy gale from W.S.W., with a strong sea, prevailed on Thursday in the English Channel, accompanied by heavy rain and hail storms. Towards nightfall the weather moderated.

It is expected that a fresh inquiry into the circumstances attending the murder of Mr. Ogle, in Thessaly, will shortly be held. New evidence of an important character is likely to be forthcoming.

It is stated that Major-General Sir F. Roberts has decided to retain the command of the Madras Army, and that there is no probability of his returning home to join the staff at headquarters.

At the meeting of the Oldham Corporation on Thursday, it was stated that the typhoid fever epidemic was declining, and that the measures taken had been found adequate. Two deaths have occurred, and other cases are continually reported.

Ever-y House, Willis, the ancient seat of the Astleys, was totally destroyed by fire on Thursday. The fire broke out at nine o'clock, and in less than three hours the mansion was gutted and the greater part of the contents destroyed. Mr. Curtis, the occupier, was absent at the time.

In reply to a deputation of Poor Law Guardians on Tuesday, Mr. Dodson, M.P., held out no hope of the House of Commons legislating on the subject of the Poor-laws at an early date, at the same time promising that the views of the deputation should be considered at the proper time.

H.M.'s Indian troopship *Malabar* left Portsmouth on Thursday for Bombay with drafts amounting to 38 officers, 49 men, 30 women, and 34 children. She will call at Queenstown for further drafts numbering 19 officers, 676 men, 13 women, and 10 children, or a total military freight of 1,259.

It is understood that Sir Evelyn Wood has so far modified his views as to have promised to reconsider his decision with regard to his departure from Natal, and it is probable therefore that he may be induced to accept the governorship of the colony under the new terms, in deference to the unanimous wish of the colonists.

A lodgekeeper, named Sexton, at the County gaol, Cambridge, with his wife and daughter, were on Wednesday morning brutally assaulted by one of the prisoners, and Sexton, it is feared, has been fatally injured. The prisoner attacked him with a heavy weight, inflicting in his skull, and his wife and daughter coming to his assistance were served in the same way.

We understand that the Afghan war medal, which has been so long in preparation, is now almost ready, and that the issue will be proceeded with early in the new year, when the medals will be distributed among the officers and men of regiments now in the United Kingdom who formed part of the expedition. The bronze star to be granted in commemoration of Sir F. Roberts's march from Kabul to Candahar, will not be ready for some little time.

The half-yearly general meeting of the members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. J. D. Dent. There were now 8,123 members; the invested funds of the society amounted to £15,498; the current funds of the bankers were £275, and £4,000 remained on deposit. The show at Derby had resulted in the addition of £4,000 to the funds of the society. Next year the show at Reading will open on July 10.

The Queen arrived in town from Windsor shortly after four o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and drove to Prince's Gate to see the Empress Eugenie, with whom she stopped over half an hour. Her Majesty afterwards drove to St. James's Palace and visited the Duchess of Cambridge. She looked well, and is enjoying the best of health. The health of the ex-Empress has much improved during the last two days. She was able to walk about the house on Thursday; but the weather being so chilly and damp she did not go out.

A movement has been set on foot in influential quarters for the purpose of memorialising the Home Secretary for the release of the persons who were recently sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in the bribery prosecutions. Steps will be taken to have the memorial signed in all the towns of the United Kingdom, and it is hoped that the petition will be ready for presentation in the course of the next week or two, so as to procure, if possible, the release of the prisoners before Christmas.

On Thursday, a clerk named John Proudfoot was apprehended by the criminal authorities in Inverness on the charge of stealing from the post-office there, in September last, a registered letter containing Commercial Bank of Scotland notes of the value of £200. The notes were being sent through the post-office from Inverness to a branch bank in Ross-shire. The peculiarity of the case was that the numbers of the notes had not been kept by the Inverness agent. The official investigation was baffled until Thursday, when Proudfoot was arrested. It is said that his wages were £25 a week, and that a large sum of money was found at his lodgings.

On Thursday afternoon the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Marchioness of Bath, Countess Mandeville, Countess Londesborough, Countess Clarendon, Countess Spencer, and Mr. Cockrell drove over from Longleat to Frome. The weather was beautifully fine, and as the towns had preceded them, hundreds of persons lined the streets, and took up positions at windows and on house tops. The party first visited the parish church, where they were received by the Rev. Sir George Featherstone and the curate in charge, the vicar being absent at St. Leonards. They inspected the medallions in the nave, pulpit, baptistry, lodge, chapel, sacristy, altar vessels, vestments, old church records, chancel, St. Andrew's Chapel, Bishop Ken's grave, &c.

On Thursday a deputation from the traffic committee of the Ward of Billingsgate had an interview with Sir William Harcourt, at the Home Office, to present memorials praying that the present Billingsgate wharf be retained as the fish market for the metropolis, and urging Sir William's department to put pressure upon the Corporation to widen the approach to the market, and otherwise improve the site. The repudiated indignantly the allegation that they destroyed fish wilfully in order to enhance its price to the consumers. The Home Secretary admitted that a waterside market was necessary, but added that the approaches to Billingsgate were in a bad condition. As he was about to receive a deputation from the Corporation on the same subject, he should reserve a full expression of his opinion. The Corporation deputation also had an interview with Sir William, but reporters were excluded.

The usual weekly meeting of the board was held on Thursday. Mr. E. N. Buxton in the chair.—The report of the Finance Committee stated that it had been arranged with the Metropolitan Board of Works that the School Board should borrow the sum of £200,000 in one amount, with interest at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent. per annum, to be repaid by fifty annual instalments.—The report was adopted.—The adjourned debate upon the motion of Mr. Mark Wilks, having reference to the difficulties experienced by pupil teachers in obtaining admission to training colleges, was resumed by Mr. J. P. Thompson, who did not think, however, that the board possessed sufficient knowledge of the condition and working of the training colleges, or sufficient information as to the deep-seated causes of those who connected them, to make it expedient to discuss at the present time a question so vital to the relations of the Committee of the Privy Council, and to the explicit engagements of the said committee to them.—Dr. Gladstone and other speakers continued the discussion, which was adjourned.

* Ludgate-hill, Past and Present: A Narrative concerning the People, Place, Legends, and Customs of the Great London Highway. By E. Treloar. Grafton and Parnes.

FAIR TRADE AND FOUL PLAY.

We last week published a letter, headed "Challenge to the Cobden Club," from Mr. H. J. Pettifer, a working silversmith, anxious to win the Fair Trade spurs against Mr. Medley, the last new champion of the Cobden Club. Mr. Pettifer addressed his letter to newspapers of every shade of political opinion, and amongst others the *Echo*, which has given space to one or two hostile letters against him.

The first shot fired was from the Battersea Liberal Union, and appeared in the *Echo*—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ECHO."

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Pettifer's challenge in this day's *Echo*, will you allow me to say that if Mr. Pettifer really means what he says, the recently-formed Battersea Advanced Liberal Union will be glad to arrange with him, or with the League which he represents, for a discussion of Free v. Fair Trade in one of the public halls of Battersea.

I may say that at some lectures on Fair Trade which have been delivered in this neighbourhood, opponents have been debarré from stating their views, and we shall therefore welcome an advocate who will be willing to concede free discussion.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., J. C. DURANT, Hon. Sec.

39, Grayshott-road, Lavender-hill, S.W., Dec. 3.

The second followed the next day:—

Sir,—I am not surprised that Mr. Durant, in his letter yesterday, should say, "If Mr. Pettifer means what he says," for Mr. Pettifer, after challenging at the Radical Club, Deptford, a set of much less important personages than he has now done, and the challenge having been accepted by a modest, but clever young workman, a Mr. Jones, (sic) Mr. Pettifer declined the contest. Is not this the sort of thing that is usually, if vulgarly, called bounce?—I am, Sir, yours, &c., J. C. DURANT, Hon. Sec., Divisional Chairman Greenwich Liberal Five Hundred, Blackheath, S.E., Dec. 6.

And in the same day's paper, the genial Mr. Wetherston, the opulent silversmith of Pall Mall, also attacked his brother (working) silversmith, with one of his characteristic epistles on Hall Marks. Three correspondents having thus been allowed space for their attacks on Mr. Pettifer, this is the fashion in which our contemporary treated a letter from him in reply:—

We have received another letter from Mr. H. J. Pettifer in reference to his public "challenge to the Cobden Club," but we decline to appropriate any more space to the subject, as, judging from Mr. Pettifer's method of beating about the bush, it looks as if he did "not want to fight." He publicly issued a challenge; that challenge has been accepted, publicly and privately; let him now come to blows, or for ever hold his peace.

Mr. Pettifer failing thus to receive the ordinary fair play given to opponents, has sent us his

SUPPRESSED LETTER

addressed to the editor of the *Echo*. We leave it, as he does, to the public to judge how far the accusation of "beating about the bush" is justified.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ECHO."

Sir,—Allow me to say a few words in reply to the letters of Mr. Durant, Mr. Wetherston, and Mr. Roberts, which have appeared in your paper under the above heading (Challenge to the Cobden Club). As regards the first-named gentleman, I have written to him in the hope of being able to arrange for a debate.

I think it will be no breach of confidence on my part to say that Mr. Wetherston has written to invite me to what he calls a "friendly fight" upon the question of Fair Trade, at which I hope to be able to prove to him that the depression in the one particular branch to which he alludes, namely the silver trade, has nothing whatever to do with either Free or Fair Trade, but has arisen from altogether different causes.

Now for Mr. Roberts. That gentleman tells your readers that I have declined to debate the question, with a modest but clever young workman named Jones (the right name allow me to say is Mr. Job). What I really did was to decline after two nights' experience to again discuss the subject at the Deptford Radical Club. But perhaps Mr. Roberts is not aware that on November 29, I sent Mr. Job a list of five places, and again on December 4, a further list of five places, at either or all of which I was prepared to meet him and give him that fair play, which the Deptford people did not seem inclined to give me.

At the same time I must confess I would much rather have met Mr. Medley (from whom I may as well inform you I have received a letter declining the contest), for I always think it is the best way to strike directly at the big fish, and not trouble about the small fry. In other words, to meet and answer those who make the arguments, and not those who merely retail them out.—Yours, &c., H. J. PETTIFER.

36, Henry-street, W., Dec. 6th.

In addition to Mr. Pettifer's reply, the following is a copy of

ANOTHER SUPPRESSED LETTER.

written by the Secretary of the Fair Trade League, after reading Mr. Roberts's letter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ECHO."

Sir,—With reference to a letter which I see in your paper this evening, I feel at a loss to the writer—Mr. C. Russell Roberts, of Greenwich—would not have written it, had he known what had transpired with reference to the proposed discussion between Mr. Job and Mr. Pettifer, on the question of Fair-Trade v. one-sided Free Trade.

Perhaps I may be allowed to state that on the 26th November last I wrote to Mr. Job, by Mr. Pettifer's request, to say that Mr. Pettifer was ready to meet Mr. Job "at the Clarendon Hall," the place indicated by Mr. Job, "or elsewhere." I then added, also on behalf of this League, to engage whatever room might be selected in order "to thoroughly debate the question for one, two, or three evenings, or more if need be. I also promised Mr. Job that the discussion shall be advertised, so that you (Mr. Job) may have further scope for your opinions, and a good audience."

I venture to think that this scarcely looks either like shirking the question, or what Mr. Roberts says "is really, if vulgarly, called bounce."

I should add, perhaps, that Mr. Job has not, as far as I yet know, accepted this offer.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HOWARD GORE-BROWNE, Hon. Sec.

National Fair Trade League, 23, Cockspur-street, S.W., Dec. 6, 1881.

FURIOUS GALE.—A furious south-east gale raged along the south-east coast of Scotland throughout Wednesday. The sea was very high, and many vessels were wind-bound in the Tay. Much anxiety is felt for the large fishing fleet which left Dundee on Tuesday morning for deep-sea fishing. During the gale the fishermen had to leave many lines in the water and run for safety. Out of the 19 boats three have reached Dundee, five St. Andrew's, and four the Firth of Forth, but the fate of the remainder is unknown.

FALL OF A SCAFFOLD AND INJURY OF FIVE MEN.—An accident of a serious nature occurred at the Phoenix Foundry, Dunfermline, on Monday. Six men were standing on a temporary scaffold, 15 ft. high, erected for the purpose of taking down a brick wall which was damaged by the late storm. The bricks were placed on the scaffold as they were removed, and the result was that owing to their weight a crane support broke and the entire structure came down with a terrific crash. Two of the men were buried beneath the bricks, and were ascertained with difficulty. Three others fell in, and were seriously injured, having their legs and arms broken. The injured men were Hugh Buchanan, mason, Woodhead-street; Peter Walls, mason, Milton-green; Robert Gilmore, labourer, Dundee Brae; Robert Stewart, labourer, Reid-street; and William Belford, labourer, Rothwell-place. All are married, with the exception of Stewart, and have families.

STATE OF IRELAND.

Murder in King's County.

A telegram received in Dublin on Monday from Parsonstown reports another terrible agrarian murder, the scene of the occurrence being near Shannon Bridge, King's County. A farmer named Milligan, a tenant on the estate of Mr. Potts, on whose property at Clonshan evictions took place last week, had incurred displeasure by paying his rent. He was in Athlone on Saturday attending the market, and on leaving before dusk he appears to have been followed to a lonely spot three miles from his home and brutally murdered. No clue has yet been obtained to the persons who committed the crime.

Midnight Drillings.

The Government is very anxious as to the condition of affairs, owing to the general determination amongst the small farmers not to pay rent, and to deter others from doing so. It has come to the knowledge of the authorities that midnight drillings are going on, but the officials at the Castle are kept fully aware of the proceedings of the disaffected individuals.

The Children's Land League.

In order that the youthful members of this important body may be informed of its tenets in a manner adapted to their infantile minds, they have been thrown into the following doggerel rhymes:—

"A's the Army that covers the ground,
B is the buckshot we're getting all round,
C is the crowbar of cruellest fame,
D is our Davitt, a right glorious name;
E is the English who've robbed us of bread,
F is the famine they've left us instead;
G is for Glanstone, whose life is a lie;
H is the h-r-r-o-r we'll hold or we'll die;
I is the Inspector, who when drunk is bold;
J is the jarvey, who'll not drive him for gold;
K is Kilmahnam, where our true men abide;
L is the Land League, our hope and our pride;
M is the magistrate, who makes black of white;
N is no rent, which will make our wrongs right;
O is old Ireland, which yet shall be freed;
P is the peelers, who have sold her for greed;
Q is the Queen, whose use is not known;
R is the riders, who keep up her throne;
S is the sheriff, with wee in his train;
T is the toll, that others may gain;
U is the Union that works bitter harm;
V is the villain that grabs up a farm;
W is the warrant for death or for chains,
X is the Express, all lies and no brains;
Y is 'Young Ireland,' spreading the light;
Z is the zeal that will win the great fight."

November's List of Crimes.

The Dublin *Gazette* of Tuesday contained a return of the agrarian outrages committed in the month of November. The total number is 520, which includes the following:—Murder, 2; firing at person, 17; assault on police, 1; grievous assault, 7; assault endangering life, 6; assaults on bailiffs and process servers, 21; incendiary fires and arson, 49; firing into dwellings, 23; injuries to property, 38; injuries to railway trains or highways, 2; resisting legal process, 1; attacks on houses, 8; intimidation, 320; administering unlawful oaths, 4; robbery of arms, 7; wounding or maiming cattle, 15. The total for each province is:—Ulster, 44; Leinster, 129; Connaught, 110; Munster, 237.

Land Sales.

It appears from a Parliamentary return issued on Tuesday, that the gross total for sales up to Dec. 31, 1880, under the Land Act of 1870, in respect of which the advances were made by the Board of Works in Ireland, was 44,692 acres, of the annual value of 237,852. The annual rent of this land is set down at £31,184. The gross amount of the purchase money was £723,037, of which £233,967 was paid in cash by the tenant, and £489,070 was advanced by the Board of Works on mortgage. The arrears of instalments due upon the advances amount to £693.

Release of a Suspect.

Mr. Patrick Lynch, of Galvade, county Roscommon, was unconditionally released from Kilmahnam on Monday on account of ill-health.

Arrests.

On Monday two members of the Land League were arrested in Dublin under the Corcoran Act for being suspected of intimidating people not to pay their rents. These were Mr. Gerald M. Clifford, Cahirciveen, and Mr. Pat Ward, Mayo.

Murder in Waterford.

On Tuesday, the dead body of a man named James Long was found at Daybrook, near Mullinavat, about six miles from Waterford. The body bore marks of violence, and blood was found near the spot where it lay. A man named Breen or Brien, has been arrested in connection with the affair.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone left Limerick on Tuesday. He has travelled much through south-west Cork, the county Kerry, in Berehaven, Glengarriff, and Kilmurphy, during his brief stay in Limerick he has been taking walks into the country, and visiting farm-houses, where he has been hospitably received. The farmers regarded him as an extremely gentlemanlike young Englishman.

Evictions.

On Monday morning a force of about 200 armed men left Waterford for Kilmacow and Granagh, for the purpose of evicting 24 tenants on the estate of Mr. Thomas Redington Roche, who resides in Galway. The tenants were chiefly for rents due last May. The majority paid up under protest after their holdings were broken into. Two refused to pay absolutely, and one was evicted. Tenant in whose house a corpse was lying was not visited. Everything passed off quietly.

Desperate Fight.

A quarrel ensued at Bonnycoulton, county Mayo, on Tuesday, between two men regarding a boundary fence between their lands. They fought with spades for some time. The first aggressor struck his antagonist a severe blow on the shoulder, when the other split his skull with a blow. The injured man's depositions have been taken.

Increase of Crime.

Baron Fitzgerald opened the winter assizes for Connaught at Carrick-on-Shannon on Tuesday. Addressing the grand jury, he deplored the condition of their country. There were forty cases to go before them; but this number afforded no indication whatever of the vast number of cases specially reported by the police authorities. The combination of a from which this class of crime resulted had now continued for four years. The most alarming feature in the condition of the country was that, in the face of the determined efforts of redress which the Legislature afforded, the class of crime to which he alluded continued, increased, and was increasing. With such a condition of things no Government could co-exist.—The Munster winter assizes opened on Tuesday in Cork. Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, addressing the grand jury, said there were 120 prisoners to be tried, and the great bulk were for agrarian offences. He deplored the great increase of crime, and in nine-tenths of these offences the perpetrators were not made amenable. Right was disregarded, and property was unsafe. It was only by the aid of an overwhelming military force that the process of the law could be executed, and the humbler classes continued to be oppressed by an odious tyranny.

Action of the Government.

A Dublin correspondent telegraphed on Wednesday night: The Irish Government have determined, under warrant of an Act of Parliament which enables them to increase the constabulary force, immediately to enlist for a limited period a considerable number of recruits unsuited to be for the purpose specially of instituting a system of patrolling. These men will be taken, if possible, mostly from the Irish army reserve and army, marine, and police pensions, &c., though there will be, if approved of, accepted at the constabulary office at a small bonus. These candidates may come from any part of Great Britain, and will receive information as to the amount of remuneration and other terms of engagement on application to the staff officer of recruitment, or the officer commanding the regimental district, or the police authorities where the recruits are to be raised. One result of this move will be to render the constabulary force more

available for general services, there being at present fully one thousand members of the body engaged in the exclusive business of affording personal protection to persons under threat of violence in the rural districts of Ireland. Complaint has been made that the Government have not taken certain steps which are impossible without the passing of an Act of Parliament, which Act could not be obtained until at least a month after the House sits. The measure they have now adopted with the object of getting on as well as possible through the winter is intended to exert a closer supervision through the recruiting for the police of experienced and disciplined men in particular quarters. There is reason to believe that the Government have broken up the Land League effectually in its centres and in its branches, and that the trouble which remains is more of the nature of a relic of turbulence than an organisation having any special vital life. The strongest hopes exist that the outrages, had as they are will be prevented by a scheme which, strictly within the provisions of the Act, enables the executive to relieve the harassed police force and concentrate upon particular districts such an amount of attention as will ensure that all bad characters residing therein or appearing there as strangers shall be carefully watched and all their movements tracked.

Land League Martial Law.

Mr. S. M. Hussey, writing from Edenduff, Gortalea, in the county of Kerry, tells the following story:—"On Friday, Nov. 18 last, two tenants named Cronin, and one named O'Keefe, holding land from the Earl of Kenmare came to my office in Killarney. O'Keefe, the spokesman, an old man of seventy, said, 'We have Lord Kenmare's rent in our pockets and we would like to pay it, but we are afraid of being shot.' I deeply regret to say that I replied, 'There is no danger, you must pay,' and they did. The result was that on Sunday, the 27th ult., a band of marauders (accompanied by fire and drum) came to the houses of these three men and shot them in the presence of their families. All the flesh on the lower part of O'Keefe's legs was shot away. One of the Cronins was shot in the knees, but the other Cronin was shot in the body, and is not likely to recover. Everyone in the locality knows who the would-be murderers are, but are afraid to tell, saying, 'What use would there be in our telling, as the jury would acquit them, and we should be shot.' This is martial law on the Land League side."

MIDDLE-AGED MEN AND LADIES' MAIDS.

At Marlborough-street Police-court on Wednesday, Henry Cook, a middle-aged man, was charged with having obtained goods and money by fraud. The method adopted by the prisoner appeared to be a promise of marriage to ladies' maids and young women of the same position in life, and then obtain from them money and valuables under the pretence of some temporary embarrassment. His operations seemed to have been of the most extensive character, and a crowd of some hundreds of persons, who could not obtain admittance, remained outside the court during the afternoon. He was understood to exercise the profession of a dancing master, and had acted in the capacity of master of the ceremonies at the Horns Assembly Rooms, Kennington.

—Miss Holley, recalled, said that when she first met the prisoner, she asked him if he was married, and he said no. A woman calling herself Mrs. Cook had since called upon her, however, and she now knew that he was a married man with six children.—Mr. Abraham said he would bring forward five cases, all of the same nature, against the prisoner. His office was literally besieged by young women who had been victimized by him. From one he had obtained £45, from a second £22, from a third £17 and a gold chain, from a fourth £38, and from a fifth a watch.—Catherine Parkinson, 52, Cleveland-street, Fitzroy-square, deposed to the fact of the prisoner being the father of her child. During the month of November he brought her a watch and told her to pawn it. She did so, and gave him the money, retaining the ticket herself.—Edwin Lake, pawnbroker's assistant, produced the watch. —Miss Holley identified it as the one which she had lent to the prisoner in order to have his photograph put in the back.—The prisoner was then committed for trial on the first charge, and the second case was gone into.—Miss Stone, lady's maid, testified as to having met the prisoner in April last close to Paddington station, at nine or half-past nine p.m. He accosted her, for she would never have spoken to him first. He said, "Just going for a walk?" and she replied, "I am just going home." They walked on together, and after having a discussion on religious matters she left him at Portland-place. The prisoner said his name was Harry Pierce, and he had been in the employment of Messrs. Ryder, of Bond-street, as a working jeweller, for the last seventeen years; his masters gave him £4 per week, and he made a good deal of money in overtime. After a few meetings he said, "Look here, I intend making you my wife," and she replied, "I am very much astonished at your asking me such a question, as I know so little about you." He said Mr. Ryder was very glad to learn he was about to be married, and added that so high a place did he occupy in his employer's estimation that he frequently dined with him at Richmond. On one occasion he asked for her watch, in order to have his photograph put in it, but she said that would be a very peculiar place to have it, and at his suggestion she gave him a locket and chain instead. After receiving the locket he said he wanted her to do something for him. He had stood security for a friend and the loan office people had come down upon him for the money, so he wanted her to lend him £25. The next time she met him he asked her to lend him £25. She could let him have, and she then gave him £25, also giving £4 on a subsequent occasion, but she then began to see that she had acted foolishly, and gave him no more. She frequently asked for her locket and chain, but could not obtain them.—Cross-examined by Mr. Lewis, the witness said she sympathized with the man in his trouble, and trusting in his representations, gave him the money. If she had known he was a married man with six children she would not have given him the money.—A pawnbroker's assistant produced the locket and chain, which the last witness identified, and said that to the best of his belief the prisoner was the man who pawned them.—Detective-sergeant Bagley deposed to arresting the prisoner on Nov. 29. On being taken to the custody he said "Oh!" but made no remark.—The prisoner was committed for trial on the third charge, and the third case was brought on.—Lena Keen, a German cook, said she knew the prisoner since the evening of September 10th last, when she met him close to the Marble Arch. He asked her where she was going, and she said she was going home. They walked on together, and he told her he had worked at the establishment of Messrs. Pike, in Bond-street, for the last fourteen years, adding that his master wished him to get married. He would have lodgings, coal, and gas free. His aunt had recently died and left him some money and shares in a railway company. She asked him why he had not married before, and he said it was because he could not find any one to suit him, but she was just the woman he wanted; he liked her very much, and wanted herself and not her money. He showed her the shop where he said he worked, and, knocking at the back door, remarked, "This is where I sleep." She expressed a wish to go in, but he said, "No, I have got the key, but we won't go in." He induced her to give him her watch and chain under the pretence of having offered it to a locket which had been left to him by his aunt.—The pawnbroker, who expressed a belief that Cook was the man who had pledged it, produced the watch and chain, which the last witness identified.—The case was remanded, bail being refused.

FATAL CARNAGE ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday night, while Mr. MacGillivray, farmer, Glenlochay, Aberdeenshire, was driving home in a light carriage from Tomintoul, the horse shied, and went over a high embankment beside the river Avon. Mr. MacGillivray was thrown out and killed instantly, but a boy who was with him escaped unhurt, although he fell a distance of 60 feet. The horse was killed, and the carriage smashed to pieces.

Some unfortunate crime has been caused by the panic which the sheep-stealers have been made to occupy as the base of Government's policy, their faces being placed towards a mass of away from the coast. It has not yet been finally decided that they shall remain in this position, but it is said that the committee who are responsible for the work are not likely to make any further change, they being of opinion that the sentences have been rightly placed.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

Intelligence from Minneapolis (Minnesota) announces the destruction by fire of four flour mills and one cotton mill in that place. In one of the flour mills an explosion occurred, by which four men were killed and several injured. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

King Theebaw is said to have abandoned his intention of joining the Buddhist priesthood, and to have become reconciled to the Queen, who wanted a divorce. There was a rumour that she had disappeared, and as sudden disappearances in the royal palace, Mandalay, too often mean sudden death, it was thought that the Queen had, perhaps, been put out of the reach of further trouble in his world. The report, however, was not confirmed, and the more pleasing one of a return of conjugal elicity between Theebaw and his spouse is contained in the most recently-received Mandalay letters.

A Constantinople correspondent telegraphs that reports received by the Porte expatiate on the cordiality of the reception given to Ali Nizami by the Emperor of Germany. His Majesty, it is stated, expressed his profound satisfaction at the cordial relations between Turkey and Germany, which he desired to render still more intimate.

A note in the Paris *Télégraphe* states that the retirement of M. Challemeil-Lacour immediately after the signature of the Franco-English Treaty of Commerce is spoken of. Our ambassador in London, who is not in the best of health, and is anxious to resume the French mode of life, will not seek to obtain any other diplomatic post.

A Constantinople telegram dated Tuesday states that Lord Dufferin, acting upon instructions received from Earl Granville, has requested an audience of the Sultan, for the purpose of representing to his Majesty the necessity for reforms in Armenia. In consequence of this action on the part of the ambassador, the Porte has appointed a commission to study the question of reforms in Armenia, and will send a commissioner to the province to inquire into the condition.

The Russian court officials, who are now engaged in making preparations for the coronation of the Czar in the spring, have ordered fifteen snow white horses, which will be used in the procession.

The Mahomedans at Kuldja, who are afraid of a repetition of the atrocities which were perpetrated on the Chinese garrison of Kashgar, have emigrated in numerous bodies to Russia.

Prince Bismarck insists on being freed from official duties though he wishes to retain supreme control of the Government.

The management of a Berlin theatre has announced the production of Lord Beaconsfield's "Alroy."

The St. Petersburg police have captured a band of fifteen men who had provided themselves with the complete uniforms of officers in the army, together with crosses of the Order of St. George. They had evidently intended to take part in the festivities on St. George's Day, which falls on Friday next, presumably with the object of creating a disturbance; and in consequence of the discovery exceptional measures of precaution have been taken by the authorities.

A DEFENCE OF VIVISECTION.

It is not to be supposed that M. Jules Simon is in any way responsible for his colleague's, Dr. Cyon, ardent defence of vivisection and his attack on the anti-vivisectionists, whom he holds to be a fanatical English sect. They are, this physiologist says, an outgrowth of that narrow, formalistic, reasoning, charity, which distinguishes Protestants. The vivisectionist movement in Prussia and Saxony has been promoted by princesses of English origin. In Florence, English people have got up a cry against the professors of physiology who treat in the footsteps of Claude Bernard, Brown, Seguard, and Bert. Their sentimental pity for beasts has nothing in common with the natural compassion of Roman Catholics for human beings. Dr. Cyon complains of the unfair use made in London by the anti-vivisectionists of his work and the woodcuts in them. He has seen on sandwich mer pictures of himself and a lot of grinning medical students about a monkey which was imploring their pity, and had a more human countenance than any of them. This Russian physiologist is greatly afraid that M. Paul Bert by the favour he shows to Protestants will render the anti-vivisectionists strong enough to close his laboratory at the Sorbonne. Dr. Cyon says the regulation of vivisection in England amounts to the crushing of the science of physiology in its infancy.

THE POOR LAWS.

On Wednesday, a meeting of representatives of the boards of guardians of England and Wales was held in the board-room of the London School Board, under the presidency of Mr. Pell, M.P. There was a large attendance from all parts of the country. Mr. Bousfield (Kensington) read a paper on "Vagrancy," which he thought could only be ameliorated by the union authorities being invested with increased powers of detention; and he suggested that Government should be asked to appoint a royal commission to inquire into the subject.—Mr. Alcock (Sutherland) moved that the central committee be instructed to draft a bill embodying the resolutions passed by the last conference.—Mr. Holland, M.P., seconded the resolution, and hoped that the matter would come under the notice of Parliament next session.—Mr. G. Cunningham (Portsmouth) said that, in consequence of pensions now being paid quarterly instead of monthly, vagrancy had greatly increased. During the last five years pauperism in his union had doubled. He disagreed with the notion that these vagrants should be treated in the same manner as their own poor.—Mr. Llewellyn (Aberdeen) was in favour of employing the police to assist the relieving officers.—Mr. Bloor (Birmingham) and Mr. Halsey (Guildford) expressed similar views.—Mr. Bolton (St. Pancras) urged that any hard-and-fast rule could not be carried out. He maintained that it was most undesirable to go to Parliament on such a matter. Reasonable labour in return for lodging for the night was all they could demand. The resolution proposed by Mr. Alcock was unanimously adopted.—The conference next proceeded to the consideration of the question, The advisability of extending the area for contributions to the cost of indoor maintenance.—Mr. L. Lowndes suggested that the country should be made the increased area for maintenance, and that there should be a better adjustment of workhouses, with more strict administration. With a better classification, he would also advocate the removal of children to establishments wholly or partially adapted for them. He believed that to extend the area for contribution to the cost of indoor-maintenance would not only improve the administration of relief, but would be of actual advantage to the ratepayers.—Mr. C. Boyle did not think anything would conduce more to the better administration of the poor law than that in-door relief could be charged over a larger area than out-door relief.—The Rev. Canon Boore (Exeter) thought the time had come when the whole of the in-door relief should be charged upon the Consolidated Fund.—Mr. Brinton, M.P., could not go the whole length of throwing all the burden upon the Consolidated Fund. They must go by steps, but certainly he was prepared to take the first step.—The Chairman said the extended area of contribution in the metropolis had not interfered in any way with the action of boards of guardians in their respective unions.—After some further discussion the proceedings closed.

On Wednesday a largely-attended meeting of landlords and farmers was held at Carmarthen to discuss the local taxation question. Lord Emlay, M.P., presided. The county treasurer stated, as instancing the extravagance of the local boards, that recently he audited some accounts in a large town in South Wales, and one item was £250 to the retaining officer for a single day's work.

Some hundreds of labourers have been employed clearing away the ruins of the earth at Euse Tunnel, on the Great Northern Railway, where the extensive landslip occurred last Saturday morning. Eight thousand tons were removed before a single line could be worked, and the trains are now running on one pair of rails. It is estimated that 20,000 tons will have to be dug off before traffic can be fully restored. It is by no means certain further slides may not occur.

